

AUSTRALIAN & BRITISH

SOCCER



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WEEKLY

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GST INCLUSIVE

\$8m saves Australia, France friendly!

***World champs arrive by chartered jet.
*Farina unveils 22-man squad today.**

French Football Federation boss, Claude Simonet has revealed why the reigning world champions resisted high-powered lobby from top European clubs to cancel the November 11 friendly tie against Australia.

According to Simonet, the French soccer federation will be hit with a penalty of 30million French Francs (about A\$8m) if it pulled out of the much-troubled friendly against the Socceroos.

Simonet's revelations come as Soccer Australia plan to unveil a 22-man squad picked for the controversial game. The lucky 22 Socceroos will be unwrapped today in Melbourne at a media briefing to

be addressed by Australia's manager, Frank Farina and SA chairman, Ian Knop. Most of the Australia's Europe-based contingent led by the Leeds United duo of Mark Viduka and Harry Kewell will form the backbone of the team, while a sprinkling of NSL stars are likely to make the side.

Simonet, explained the latest attempts to scuttle the game: "Last week in Prague, at the UEFA congress, Mr Blatter and Mr Zen Ruffinen asked me if it was possible to cancel this encounter.

"Moreover, when I was back to France, David Dein [Arsenal chairman] asked to meet me. So I welcomed him on Sunday morning, with Mr Serano one of Real Madrid's officials, to explain to them my point of view.

"I told them I thought I was perfectly within my rights, because we use a date set aside for international encounters and we just decided to play one match while we could have played two.

"I also added it was the last match away from home before the World Cup. I must underline that this match was settled one year ago. At that time, I didn't hear any remarks. I also told them that for building the 2002-2003 fixture programme, we will take into account their suggestions.

"They assured me they understood, but asked me why we can't take only one player per club. I replied it was a selection matter.

"I told Roger Lemerre (the French national coach) he will chose his selection as he wants."

He concluded: "We didn't change



Wollongong Wolves' David Cervinski (left) challenges Perth Glory's Brad Maloney during their top-drawer Week 3 clash last Friday night at the WIN Stadium. See pages 6, 7 and 32 for match reports, statistics, and ladder.

our minds for the moment. Of course if FIFA will intervene considering war risks, we will consider our position, but in this case, they will have to consider the problem for others World Cup qualifiers matches in more dangerous world areas.

"Finally, are there no Australian players who could be involved to play this encounter and who are playing in England?"

According to the press, the French Federation will have to pay 30 million Francs if they want to

cancel the encounter and moreover, the TV contracts have already been signed and the Australian federation have already sold 40,000 tickets.

Meanwhile, the French soccer-ruling body has insisted that they "don't dare to imagine the financial implications" of cancelling the controversial friendly between Australia and France.

The FFF's decision to uphold the match is coming in spite of criticism from European football bosses that the French squad were robbing them of valuable players midseason

for meaningless matches played on the other side of the world.

English club Arsenal's French manager Arsene Wenger was at the head of the Euro-lobby, arguing that his players Thierry Henry, Patrick Vieira, Sylvain Wiltord and Robert Pires were being called up hot on the heels of another friendly in Chile.

However, the match, to be played in Melbourne, was never in question, concluded Simonet.

"This match was scheduled a year ago. No one raised questions

over it being played then, and it's only now that people are trying to suggest it shouldn't take place," he said.

The World and European champions, are taking no chances with their security and health and will hire a private jet to travel to Melbourne. The French federation opted for the option of a chartered jet to dismiss fears expressed by the European clubs about the players' safety owing to the current volatile situation arising from the fear of terrorist attacks.

AUSTRALIA'S LIKELY SQUAD AGAINST FRANCE

Goalkeepers: Mark Schwarzer, Zeljko Kalac.

Defenders: Tony Vidmar, Kevin Muscat, Craig Moore, Tony Popovic, Shaun Murphy, Stan Lazaridis, Steve Horvat.

Midfielders: Brett Emerton, Paul Okon (c), Josip Skoko, Steve Corica, Danny Tiatto, Lucas Neill, Marco Bresciano, Scott Chipperfield.

Strikers: Harry Kewell, Mark Viduka, Clayton Zane, John Aloisi, Paul Agostino.

NSW Premier League Lift-out Section Pages 13-20

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Mark Bosnich: His sterling debut could not prevent Chelsea losing in the UEFA Cup.

Bosnich brightens Chelsea's Israeli debacle

Comebacking Aussie international, Mark Bosnich was the man-of-the-match for Chelsea last week as the English clubside lost 2-0 to Israeli side Tel-Aviv Hapoel in a second round UEFA Cup clash.

The Aussie goalkeeper was making his debut appearance for Chelsea this season and he put up a five-star show to convince coach Claudio Ranieri that he deserved to start.

After keeping his side in the game with series of fine saves, the Israeli side finally found a way round Bosnich with a 87th minute penalty after John Terry had handled a cross in the Chelsea area.

Again in the added time, Moldovan international Klashenko headed home the second goal to blot Bosnich's near-perfect debut for the English side Bosnich however emerged as Chelsea's best-player on the night as the rest of the team put up a lacklustre performance.

To compound Chelsea's already-difficult task brought about the absence of seven key players, Mario Melchiot was sent off after 55 minutes for a straight red offence.

Bosnich still performed heroics in the Chelsea goal to keep the visitors in with a chance of salvaging a draw.

Chelsea had the Aussie to thank especially in the 64th minute when defence lapses left Hapoel's Osterc with a clear shot at goal, but the big Aussie got down in a flash to block the goal-bound shot.

Again on 75th minute Bosnich pulled off a remarkable double save from Onischenko.

But it wasn't enough to give the Premiership side a draw they didn't deserve and the double blow in the final minutes almost brought down the stadium due to the wild celebrations of the fans.

SPIRIT WELCOME BACK HISTORY-MAKING SPENCER

Noel Spencer described watching Northern Spirit's first two matches as one of the "toughest things I have had to do" and made up for lost time when he returned from suspension over the weekend to play his 100th NSL match against Adelaide City at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Spencer, along with new recruit Simon Bell, missed the 3-1 win over Parramatta Power and the 1-1 draw against Newcastle due to a carry over suspension and admits to having mixed feelings as he watched his team mates go through the first two games.

"It was one of the hardest things I have had to do," Spencer said. "After last year when things didn't go too well I was desperate to get out onto the pitch and help turn things around. The boys played really well in the first two games and we have a great bunch of lads. I just wanted to get out there and play with them."

"I was shattered that I wasn't out there but delighted with the way the team performed. It

is always hard watching from the sidelines but even harder the last two weeks.

"There is a much better feeling amongst the lads this year and I couldn't wait to get out there on Friday against Adelaide City. It is great to play my 100th game but to be honest I was more interested in just playing with these guys and getting a good result."

"We had a great crowd against Newcastle and the atmosphere was like it was before I came to the club and we all knew how important the game against Adelaide was because a result against them sets us up for a 12 to 15,000 crowd against Olympic the following week."

Spencer was rushed straight back into the starting 11 at the expense of Jack Sobczyk in a team that is starting to resemble Spirit's best side. Only Scott Thomas was unavailable and he is still three weeks away from playing after knee surgery during the off-season.

The 24-year-old Spencer notches his 100th game after playing 79 matches for the

Wollongong Wolves before joining Northern Spirit at the start of last season. He has scored three goals during his time and was a member of the Wollongong side that won the dramatic 1999/2000 NSL grand final in a penalty shoot out over Perth Glory.

Coach Mick Hickman was

happy to have one of his key defenders back in the side after conceding a late goal penultimate weekend with Spencer and Bell unavailable and defenders Troy Cranney and Sobczyk forced off the field with injury.

"Spencer (Spencer) is an important member of our team and it was great to have him back for the Adelaide game," Hickman said.

"He is a very solid defender and he has the natural

type of passion that we have managed to bring into the team."

Hickman also welcomed back Bell and captain Craig Foster for the Adelaide City match, which kicked-off at 8.00pm (8.30pm Sydney time), Friday night.

COSMOS' COLLAPSE MARS CANBERRA CITY SILVER JUBILEE

By Graham Cooke

The recent 25th anniversary celebrations of Canberra City had been planned as a gala event, scheduled to coincide with Canberra Cosmos' opening National Soccer League game.

It was to have included a parade of former players around Bruce Stadium and their introduction to the crowd.

Instead Bruce Stadium was empty and silent and a subdued group of around 30 people gathered at the City Club in town to mark a quarter century of hard work, vision and disappointment in support of Canberra City, the National Capital's entry in the inaugural NSL in 1977.

Canberra City president and founder member Arthur Huggins caught the mood when he said the people charged with building soccer in this country seemed intent on busting it.

"I read a report recently which suggested that five Australian Football League clubs are in severe financial strife," he said.

"The AFL are going to help those clubs out. Soccer does not seem to have that vision. It is the

survival of the fittest at all costs."

However, Soccer Canberra president Steve Doszpot, himself a City foundation member, said not all the blame could be laid at the door of Soccer Australia.

"The Cosmos bounced a cheque; we kept being told that money would flow

from the sponsor in the United States, but it never arrived," he said.

Huggins said a recent newspaper article on Canberra City had described it as marking '25 great years'.

"That's a little ironic," he said. "They have been very turbulent years."

He recalled the desperate struggle to raise sufficient funds for the opening season in the competition. "In those early times we had considerable success, not so much on the field, but because we were accepted by the Canberra public," he said. "We had 10,500 for a game against Marconi."

Those days are long gone, but Canberra City remained committed to supporting the concept of a National League team in Canberra, and members pledged to continue to work towards that goal.



Arthur Huggins

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South Melbourne go for Belgian star

South Melbourne's embattled coach Eddie Krncevic revealed over the weekend that he would be looking overseas for new recruits in a bid to halt the club's dismal start to the current National Soccer League season.

Krncevic confirmed the club was in contact Belgian international, Stephane van der Heyden were in top gear as the club looks to get a cover for striker, Vaughan Coveny, who picked-up a serious foot injury in last Saturday's 1-0 loss to Sydney United.

After three games, South who appeared in the last Grand Final against reigning champions, Wollongong Wolves and remain the only team to have represented the country in the World Club Cup, are now languishing at the bottom half of the table

with just a point. Krncevic added: "We'll have to see how it goes with Vaughan, otherwise we may have to go on the transfer market. "The club's not going to go out and spend big money. We'll be looking overseas, and if the right

player's available there, then that's the way we may go."

The club's current position represents their worst-possible start in the past four seasons, since winning a unique double of NSL titles in 1998/99 seasons.



Vaughan Coveny (left): Missing from South's future line-ups due to foot injury.

SOCCER SINGS NEW COLONIAL SONG



By Bert van Bedaf

Melbourne's Colonial Stadium is high on the soccer agenda, but it has proved as elusive as the phantom of

the opera. A soccer match is yet to be staged at the yup venue.

Colonial has become soccer's Alma Mater. It now is the mother of all obsessions to stage matches at the stadium that can swivel its configuration and match its seating capacity to suit football, cricket, soccer or pop concerts. Under cover in winter or at night, spectators are well catered for. The only drawback is the grass. It tends to die quickly when not exposed to natural light.

The stadium has now

become the linchpin in soccer's quest to become a sporting force in this Australian Rules Football mad city. Soccer is singing a Colonial tune.

National Soccer League general manager Stefan Kamasz recently observed, "Everybody who understands soccer knows that the most difficult market in Australia is Melbourne, largely because of the AFL. If we (NSL) are going to succeed, we have to ensure that we get it right in Melbourne."

More reasons to ensure Channel Seven and Colonial stadium get behind a big Melbourne soccer push.

Especially since opening the Colonial gates costs anything between \$80,000 and \$100,000, which is big money in soccer terms and more affordable for the AFL which is already making regular use of Melbourne's newest sporting temple.

Not the least of all considerations is the crucial fact that Colonial is the home of Channel Seven, which, in turn, owns the rights to the National Soccer League and options to Soccer Australia.

Having lost its AFL stranglehold to networks Nine and Ten, Seven has been pursuing

other advertising revenue streams and soccer is one of them.

Seven has bought the rights, believed to be for \$500,000, to Australia's World Cup qualifying matches in November in another bid to prove its credentials in a new market.

Seven is now also showing NSL games late Friday night, between 11.45-1.45pm, for dedicated night owls, and, more to the point, a Sunday highlights package at 11am, which has the Melbourne Knights and South Melbourne kneeling at the altar.

With television exposure as the carrot, the alternative nights have been revived.

South Melbourne initially planned to stick with a Sunday, 6pm, kick-off for its home matches. But it is now switching some of its matches to a Friday night time-slot, during December and January, to catch Seven's show on Sunday.

"The main thing we need to consider is catching the television exposure that is available," South general manager Damien Phillips said.

"Playing on a Sunday evening, we are unlikely to get any highlights on Seven's Sunday show a week later. It will focus on the matches played on the Friday and Saturday nights of the same weekend," he said.

The Knights switched their Sundays in favor of Saturday nights to attract more spectators and television exposure.

But the Sunshine club is also involved in a daring plan to abandon their home at Somers St and eventually play at Colonial stadium.

"Knights stadium will stay our base for senior training, juniors and the social club, but

there's no future for us there to continue playing NSL games," Knights director Alen Rados said.

"We want to stage home games at Colonial stadium, if we can work out an arrangement with Channel Seven. All roads for the Knights lead to Colonial stadium," he said.

Channel Seven is keen to have this season's NSL grand final played at Colonial stadium and Soccer Australia is equally as keen on the idea. Seven wants to make Colonial the permanent home of the NSL grand final regardless whether a Melbourne team is one of the competing sides, similar to the MCG deal with the AFL.

"Channel Seven is extremely keen and we are extremely keen," SA chairman Ian Knop said.

Double headers involving Melbourne Knights and South Melbourne matches have also been suggested. So, indications are we're likely to watch soccer at Colonial stadium this season. Everyone is looking forward to it, when it happens.

NSL Season Guide Book Now On Sale At Clubs

Supporters are now able to buy this Season's NSL Guide Book through their local NSL Club. Copies of this most comprehensive publication are now on sale at an NSL Club near you. Cost for the 2001/2002 Guide Book is \$14.95c (incl:GST).



For further enquiries contact Mr Gary Moretti at Soccer Australia on 02 - 9267 0799.

WINNERS OF ABSW'S 'PURELY BELTER' MOVIE COMPETITION

Today ABSW proudly announces the names of all the lucky readers that entered our 'Purely Belter' competition we held over the past two weeks.

Each winner will have

already received through the mail two Adult tickets to go and watch the British comedy movie with a story line about two young Newcastle United supporters.

We take this opportunity to thank all our readers that

entered our competition and hope that all lucky Ticket winners enjoy the movie, 'Purely Belter'.

Below listed in order of city, are our Winners.

ADELAIDE:

R. Cawley.
P. Deanes.
V. Dennison.
T. Grantham.
G. Pendecost.
D. Morelli.
P. Robertson.
A. Wales.
A. Whitney.

MELBOURNE

R. Adams ... East Keilor.
C. Bambridge ... Hampton Park.
T. Booth ... Fawkner.
P. Davidson ... Toorak.
A. Gregory ... Flinders.
L. Jackson ... Coburg.
P. Nathan ... Brunswick.
L. Preston ... Collingwood.
C. Rooth ... Seaford.
N. Wotherspoon... Forest Hill.

BRISBANE:

G. Coote.
V. Cunningham
P. Georges.
C. Jefferies.
L. Pares.
T. Prescott.
D. Scarfe.
B. Swan.
D. Travers.
R. Wilson.

SYDNEY:

T. Argyrou ... Hunters Hill.
T. Bennett ... Hornsby.
G. Clarke ... Bass Hill.
T. Deacon ... Wetherill Park.
K. Fitis ... Yagoona West.
V. Horvath ... Sefton.
C. Koulis ... Roselands.
Cathy La Delfa... Edensor Park.
F. La Delfa ... Edensor Park.
P. Litsas ... Greenacre.
M. Mikan ... Rooty Hill.
A. Matic ... Surry Hills.
A. Pinkowski... Buff Point.
V. Pires ... Darlinghurst.
A. Ryan ... Sanctuary Pt.
N. Scott ... Charlestown.
W. Sinclair ... Penrith.
G. Stevens ... Stanmore.
R. Tavenor ... West Ryde.
N. Wilson ... Cherrybrook.

CANBERRA:

S. Bradley ... Deakin.
E. Fredricks... Fisher.
N. Lovell ... Belconnen.
P. Mills ... Kambah.
J. Riddell ... Narrabundah.
E. Watson ... Queanbeyan East.



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Thursday	25th October 2001	U17's	7.00pm
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		U12's	11.00am

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The Good Oil ... The Good Oil

THE MARCONI STADIUM was the place to be last Saturday night where the home side played host to the Auckland Kingz.

Playing its first match at home for the season, Marconi had easily streaked ahead to grab a 2-0 lead by halftime through goals by twin strikers Royce Brownlie and Norman Tome.

scored in the last quarter, eight goals in total, the woodwork hit three times, Tome 'breaking his duck' at Marconi, plus three glorious goals scored in the very last seven minutes.

Nobody wanted the match to end.

That excluded the referee Simon Micallef and of course both of the goalkeepers.

●●●●

than previous long-time record holder and Tobin's former team-mate at Adelaide City, the great Sergio Melta.

For years Melta held the record of having played 445 games, the most games by a player of any footballing code in Australia.

●●●●

LAST Friday night at the Hindmarsh Stadium in the 2-2 draw against the Northern Spirit, Zoran Matic equalled former St George and national coach Frank Arok's longstanding record for coaching in the NSL.

Matic has now coached in 429 NSL games to draw level with Arok.

The extremely proud and hard working South Australian coach is set to break the new record this Saturday evening over in Sydney when Matic's team Adelaide City travels to the Parramatta Stadium to clash with the Power.

Easily the NSL's most successful coach, Matic took over his beloved Adelaide City in 1986 and won the NSL Championship first up.

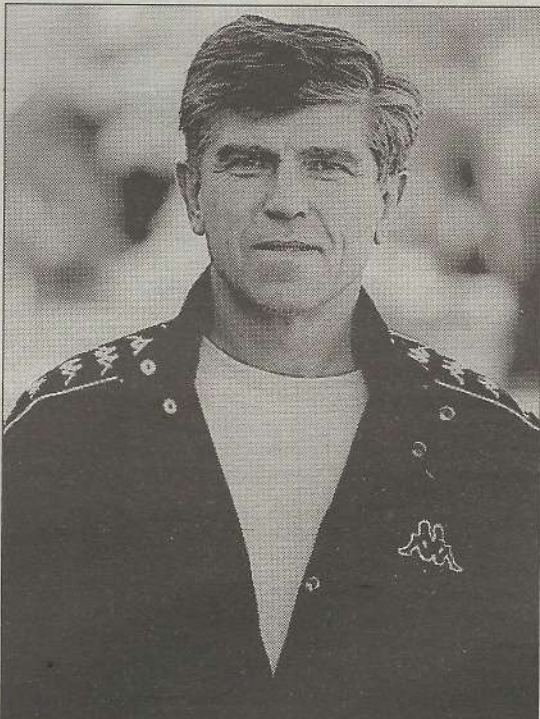
Since then, Matic has cracked the League Championship twice more, (1992 and '94), plus has won three NSL Cup Finals in 1989 and 1992, (both with Adelaide City), as well as in 1997 with the now defunct Collingwood.

The always very proud but stern Matic, stated to 'Good Oil' last night about his coaching career:



By John Economos

"In my life I have always believed that hard work is character-building and that is very important for me."



ZORAN MATIC: Adelaide City's coach set to break NSL coaching record this Saturday.

"It's also very important for all the players I'm coaching," ended the serious, but humble coach.

●●●●

ALLAN ('Kit Kat') **ACRISP**, ABSW's and South Australia's leading Soccer writer, enters hospital this morning, (Tuesday), for an operation on his eye.

'Kit Kat' was advised by his specialist to have the operation to remove a cataract that was hindering his vision.

Allan was admitted into hospital at Glen Osman this morning, the very same day that he had initially planned to take his lovely wife Val on a four day holiday.

Next Tuesday morning, Allan 'plays the second leg' with his eye specialist in hospital to have the cataract removed from his other eye.

Best wishes 'Kit Kat'.

Speedy recovery to get back on deck.

●●●●

DAMIAN MORI, the Perth Glory's dynamic marksman, nailed both goals last Friday night in Glory's 0-2 win over current League champions, the Wollongong Wolves.

Already the NSL's all-time record holder of most goals scored in the League, this latest brace has lifted Mori's personal NSL tally to a lofty 171. This is 34 goals more than second

CLAUDIO PELOSI, Adelaide City's lanky Italian import marksman, could very soon be on his way back to play with the 'Black and Whites'.

98th NSL goal and the life-saving second goal equaliser for the Northern Spirit.

This Friday night at the North Sydney Oval, (and ironically against his old



CLAUDIO PELOSI: Expected very soon back at Adelaide City.

The veteran Pelosi returned to Italy at the end of last season and it was expected he would be retiring.

But a change of mind by the 34 year old has come over the classic goalscorer and late last week contacted Adcity officials, stating of his desire to return and play for another season in the City

club Sydney Olympic), the 29 year old Cardozo will be keen to rattle up his 'NSL ton' should he manage to crack in a double.



PABLO CARDOZO: Just two goals short of his 'Ton'.

●●●●

SOUTH MELBOURNE has served notice that it has made several changes to home matches to be played this season from the initial Draw.

Three Sunday matches have now been brought forward to be played on Friday nights, all starting at 7.30pm.

South's management has issued the following rescheduled home game changes:

Round 9...vs Adelaide City, kick-off has been brought forward from 7pm to now start at 6pm.

Round 11...vs Brisbane Strikers has been shifted from Friday to Sunday December 16th, at 6pm.



DAMIAN MORI: Record goalscorer stretches his lead last Friday at Wollongong.

placed Rod Brown who is now retired.

The murderous Mori has now scored in all three Rounds of the new NSL Season.

of Churches.

Confirmation of Pelosi's return was expected late last night.

●●●●

PABLO CARDOZO, the Northern Spirit's stylish striker, is on the verge of knocking up his 'ton' of goals scored in the NSL.

Last Friday night at the Hindmarsh Stadium against Adelaide City, and ten minutes into the second half, Cardozo scored his



Paul Trimboli: Third most games played in the NSL.

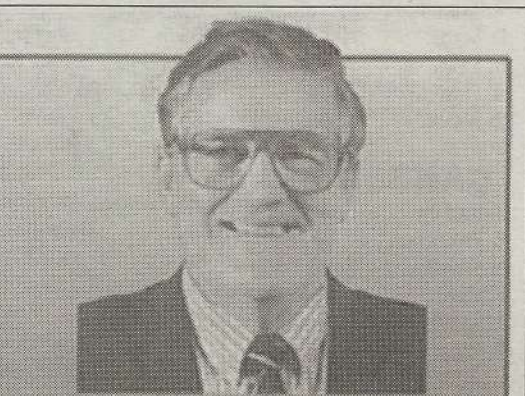
sterling centre-back, Mike O'Shea, as having played the third most matches in the history of the NSL.

The Power's captain, Alex Tobin, leads the record list, having played to date 467 games, 22 matches more

"It has always been a struggle.

"Apparently I was born to always struggle.

"Success never has worried me. I have always been dedicated to working hard and nothing else.



ALLAN ('Kit Kat') CRISP: In hospital today.

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The Good Oil ... The Good Oil

Round 12...vs Wollongong Wolves has been brought forward to Friday 21st December at 7.30pm.

Round 15...vs Kingz is now to be played on Friday 18th January at 7.30pm.

Round 19...vs Northern Spirit now to be played on Friday 15th February at 7.30pm.

“MARCONI TRAVEL”, this week has opened up its booking lists, offering economical travel packages to Melbourne in November for Australia's two international games, both to be played at the M.C.G.

November 11th is the first international against the current European and

World Champions, France.

The second international, (at this stage set for November 18th), is Australia's last World Cup qualifier at the M.C.G. against the yet to be deter-



EDDIE KRNCVIC:
South's Head-coach.

mined South American opponent.

‘Marconi Travel’ has limited packages available for either or both of these November internationals.

These packages include Qantas economy return ticket, match ticket into the M.C.G., return airport-hotel transfers, plus one/two night's accommodation.

Accommodation sites are from a selection of hotels that include: Rydges-Carlton, Carlton Crest, Pacific International, Eden On The Park and Crown Towers.

For further details, refer to advert on Page 9.



By John Economos

Marathon Stadium against Newcastle United.

This is Orlic's second season with the Power, having played the bulk of his NSL games with South Melbourne and Sydney Olympic.

In the same match on Friday night, Newcastle's wide midfielder Travis Dodd racked up his 100th game in the NSL.



invitation and rightly timed for us as we have a weekend free in our Premier League at this time.

“Our State coach Brian Brown, (Blacktown City), will be taking a compact squad of 16 players over to Noumea on November 21st.



PETER GRAY: President of the NSW Soccer Federation.

“The game dates have been set down for November 23rd, 25th and 27th.”

Mr Gray then went on to elaborate: “This tour will serve as a marvellous gesture of goodwill with one of our closest Pacific neighbours.

“We have planned return matches in Sydney to be played in February.

“I had no hesitation in accepting their invitation,” he ended.

The New Caledonian F.A.

will finance the NSW squad's airlift plus all accommodation costs.

JOCK MORLANDO has resigned as coach of the Balgownie Rangers in the Illawarra Premier League.

The former Wollongong stalwart defender, is currently the President of the Fraternity Recreation and Bowling Club at Fairy Meadow, as well being employed as a high-powered executive of a publicly listed company.

Having coached the newly promoted Balgownie into fifth position in the I.P.L. this season just ended, Morlando recently tendered his resignation as coach.



JOCK MORLANDO:
Resigns as coach of Balgownie Rangers.

Big Jock stated pressure of business in his job which necessitates him frequently travelling interstate, as reasons for his resignation.

Morlando's position for next season has been filled by capable Youth team coach and former Apia midfielder, Ray Poletto.

Balgownie Rangers will be holding their Presentation Night tomorrow evening, (Wednesday), at the Fraternity Club.

IT SEEMS babies are popping up all around the Marconi Stadium of late.

First, left wing-back Brendan Renaud's lovely wife Nadia presented her husband with their first child, a boy they're calling Alexander.

HELEN COSTANZO: The ever-smiling proud Mum.

Not to be left behind, last week Marconi's sweeper Angelo Costanzo was presented by his forever smiling wife Helen, with another boy, who'll be known as Dominic.



BELMORE HERCULES SOCCER CLUB

Wishes to invite all Soccer players to:
REGISTRATION DAY and TRIALS

for the 2002 season in C.D.S.F.A. competitions

including:

Junior Teams from Under 6 to Under 17
Senior Teams for All Age, Over 35s and Ladies

Registrations will be held on Saturday 3rd November 2001 and Saturday 10th November 2001, between 10am and 1pm, at THE GREEK COMMUNITY CLUB, 210 Lakemba Street, Lakemba.

Trials will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, according to Age groups, between 5.30pm and 8pm, at BEAMAN PARK, Flinders Road, Earlwood, beginning on Tuesday 13th November 2001.

(Please note that all players must be fully registered and have the necessary protective gear before they are allowed to compete in these Grading Trials.)

NICK ORLIC, the Parramatta Power's giant central marker, played his 200th match in the NSL last Friday night at the



NICK ORLIC: Now an NSL 'Double Centurion'.

MELBOURNE MKNIGHT's Alex Kiratzoglou last Saturday night celebrated his 100th NSL game in real style at Toyota Park.

Not only did Alex rack up his 'ton', but marked this great occasion by also scoring the sole goal of the match that ultimately sunk the Olympic Sharks to give the Knights their first win of the season plus all three precious League points.



ALEX KIRATZOGLOU:
His NSL 'ton plus a goal as a bonus.

THE NSW STATE team has been invited by the New Caledonian F.A. to play three matches within five days against its national team.

It's expected that this newly created series will be played on a home and away basis.

President of the NSW Soccer Federation, Peter Gray, stated to 'Good Oil': "It was a most welcomed

Canterbury-Marrickville Olympic
SUPER CADETS YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS
(U11's & U12's) (U13's & U17's)
FOR SEASON 2002



DATES:

Sunday 28th October

VENUE:

Henson Park, Marrickville.

TIME:

9.00AM → 12.00PM

ENQUIRIES:

Laki Konistis (Club Administrator),
04111-91815.

First Grade & U19's Players Welcome ...



Rockdale City Suns Soccer Trials 2002

Under 11's Contact Jim - 0410 462 929

Sunday	21st Oct	9.00am
Wednesday	24th Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	28th Oct	9.00am
Wednesday	31st Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	4th Nov	9.00am
Wednesday	7th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	11th Nov	9.00am
Wednesday	14th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	18th Nov	9.00am

Under 12's Contact John - 0416 200 506

Sunday	21st Oct	9.00am
Wednesday	24th Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	28th Oct	9.00am
Wednesday	31st Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	4th Nov	9.00am
Wednesday	7th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	11th Nov	9.00am
Wednesday	14th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	18th Nov	9.00am

Under 13's Contact Spase - 0416 036 985

Sunday	21st Oct	11.00am
Wednesday	24th Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	28th Oct	11.00am
Wednesday	31st Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	4th Nov	11.00am
Wednesday	7th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	11th Nov	11.00am
Wednesday	14th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	18th Nov	11.00am

Under 14's Contact Jimmy - 0402 446 688

Sunday	21st Oct	11.00am
Wednesday	24th Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	28th Oct	11.00am
Wednesday	31st Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	4th Nov	11.00am
Wednesday	7th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	11th Nov	11.00am
Wednesday	14th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	18th Nov	11.00am

Under 16's Contact Louie - 0421 306 272

Sunday	21st Oct	1.00pm
Friday	26th Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	28th Oct	1.00pm
Friday	2nd Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	4th Nov	1.00pm
Friday	9th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	11th Nov	1.00pm
Friday	16th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	18th Nov	1.00pm

Under 17's Contact Jerry - 0413 862 250

Sunday	21st Oct	1.00pm
Friday	26th Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	28th Oct	1.00pm
Friday	2nd Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	4th Nov	1.00pm
Friday	9th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	11th Nov	1.00pm
Friday	16th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	18th Nov	1.00pm

Under 19's Contact Bill - 0412 703 485

Sunday	21st Oct	3.00pm
Friday	26th Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	28th Oct	3.00pm
Friday	2nd Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	4th Nov	3.00pm
Friday	9th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	11th Nov	3.00pm
Friday	16th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	18th Nov	3.00pm

Under 21's Contact Nick - 9556 1797

Sunday	21st Oct	3.00pm
Friday	26th Oct	6.30pm
Sunday	28th Oct	3.00pm
Friday	2nd Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	4th Nov	3.00pm
Friday	9th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	11th Nov	3.00pm
Friday	16th Nov	6.30pm
Sunday	18th Nov	3.00pm

Or Contact Coaching Director Bill Pilovski on 0402 415 496
Rockdale Ilinden Sport Centre
210 West Botany Street, Arncliffe 2205 - Telephone (02) 9567 5067

National Soccer League

Newcastle United Parramatta Power

0
0

By Tim Gaimakamis

On a bitterly cold and windy night at Marathon Stadium, another good crowd of 10,005 mostly Novocastrians saw Newcastle hold out Parramatta for a 0-0 draw and remain undefeated this season.

A game of chess, both sides had strong and well-drilled defensive patterns that neither was penetrated on the night. Parramatta head coach David Mitchell was "happy with his team's performance on the whole as it was a tough competitive game and Newcastle have got a top side".

In a cautious move, United coach Ian Crook re-arranged his system for the game by playing 4-4-2 formation to counteract Parramatta playing 3-4-3. United held back young Joey Schrippa at left fullback to mark the dangerous Ahmad Elrich, a move that limited their ability to attack down the left wing.

In effect, Parramatta often during the match played with 4-5-1 set-up as Steve Eagleton would drop back often into the backline and similarly Elrich and Mat Langdon would drop into midfield.

With 14 minutes gone on the clock, Parramatta had their best chance of the first half to score when Lupo Lapsansky played a thru ball from halfway to the feet of Langdon, who slips then regains his balance in time, to play the ball across to Elrich out on the right.

Elrich's shot was parried by the

diving Daniel Beltrame only for the ball to land to John Buonavoglia who intum had his shot on goal (from 7 yards) blocked by United's Scott Baillie.

In the 23rd min Newcastle's best effort came when a thru ball from Milan Blagojevic for Joel Griffiths, enabled Joel to run into the box, but good defending from Nick Orlic (until he slipped), forced Griffiths wide where he was able to chip the



Nick Orlic: Who celebrated his 200th game.

ball across the six yard line and just miss a run by Milan.

With the ball still in play, Matthew Bingley crossed it back in only for Masi to miss heading the ball, then with Griffiths misjudging the bounce at the far post, he knocked it back across as Masi again tried to reach the ball but missed and finally Parramatta keeper Pogliacomini dived on the loose ball.

In the 61st min Eagleton steals possession on the edge of United's box, runs forward then cuts the ball back for 'Jockey' Buonavoglia who shot low forcing Beltrame to dive full stretch to his right and force the ball for a corner.

With 77 minutes played the Power had the best chance of the match to score when Matthew Langdon ran into the box and just when he should of shot on goal, he at the last second, decided to square the ball to team-mate Buonavoglia only for the retreating Schrippa to fling out his leg behind him and deflect the ball away from Jockey.

The last ten minutes of the match saw the game open up, but neither team was able to land the killer blow. Parramatta veteran David Barrett was introduced from the bench to make his 350th NSL appearance to join Nick Orlic who celebrated his 200th game.

Although not totally confident, United keeper Beltrame produced a number of fine saves to keep his team in the game. Other performances of note were produced by Griffiths and Baillie for United as well as Orlic, Langdon and Buonavoglia for the Power.

"In the second half we took the game to Newcastle, had a couple of chances and probably could of won the game," said David Mitchell. "I'm now looking forward to play Adelaide at home, claim the three points and climb up the ladder," he said leaving Newcastle with a hard fought point earned.

Adelaide City Northern Spirit

2
2

By Allan Crisp

Adelaide City Force and Northern Spirit lived up to their nicknames as they fought out an entertaining 2-2 draw at Hindmarsh Stadium on Friday night.

The home team forced the issue by twice snatching the lead, while the visitors displayed admirable spirit by staging two point saving recoveries.

A former local hero with the West Adelaide Sharks, Pablo Cardozo, turned villain for the Sydney team when he shoved an attempted clearance to the feet of Scott Tunbridge and the young City striker calmly slotted the ball past Lupce Acevski in the Spirit goal for a 6th minute lead.

Robbie Enes brought Northern Spirit into calculations by hammering home a superb 30-metre piledriver in the 31st minute.

Aurelio Vidmar went close to an immediate reply with a header that flew narrowly over the Spirit crossbar, before the veteran's effort was bettered by 19-year old defender Iain Fyfe just seven minutes after the Enes goal.

Ex-Joeey Fyfe, who played a dominant role as a left sided flank man, opened his national league scoring account with a rising drive from just inside the box to celebrate his fifth NSL appearance.

Cardozo atoned for his first half blemish nine minutes into the

second half with a brilliant pivoting goal, his 98th career strike, to set the stage for a possible 100th milestone tally in front of his home fans when Spirit meets Olympic Sharks on Friday.

Spirit substitute Simon Bell headed a corner from Enes to Cardozo, who had his back to the goal, but spun around to rifle the ball past Adrian Galaj.

That magnificent strike ended the scoring, but the chances kept coming, the most notable being an 85th minute deflected attempt from Lucas Pantelis that brought a fine save from Aceski and a last minute lob from Alex Moreira that cleared the crossbar.



Robbie Enes: His 30th minute piledriver was the best goal of the night.



Perth Glory's Bobby Despotovski (left) is challenged by Wolves' Buddy Farah.

W'gong Wolves Perth Glory

0
2

By Otto Bader

It was sweet revenge for Perth Glory at the WIN Stadium on Friday night, thanks to two classy goals from Damian Mori in each of both halves.

The first goal came in the 36th minute after the Wolves missed a great opportunity just ten minutes earlier. Mori showed how to do it with a perfect shot on the right, making space for himself after some tight marking with the ball landing in the top corner of the net. It was a clas act from the Glory striker.

The second goal came late in the second half with just two minutes to the final whistle, again Mori was in the right place to head a fine cross from Bobby Despotovski after some excellent dribbling which took out all the entire Wolves defence.

Perth Glory coach, Mitch D'Avray was naturally pleased

with the win, claiming that the strategy of his side, which restricted the Wolves, successfully closed down their famed wingplay, worked. D'Avray emphasised that this year, his side were concentrating more on defending, though he admitted that each match presented its own peculiarities.

Wolves coach, Ron Corry was obviously disappointed with the result saying a draw was within reach since his players improved a lot from their previous games. Corry however admitted that Perth's finishing power was exceptional. He regretted the chances missed by his side but said the players all put up a good effort.

Back to the game proper. An indication of how much importance the game attracted lay in the fact that WA Radio 6 PR broadcast the game live from WIN stadium with one of the longest-serving media personalities George Grljusich, along with former Socceroo captain, Johnny Warren

as co-commentators.

A determined crowd of 4,869 braved the rainy night to cheer the defending champions. Immediately after kick-off, both teams initiated attacks towards each other's areas. The first corner kick of the game fell to the Wolves in the 7th minute, coming off some sustained pressure. It however came to nought as Glory cleared their lines and surged forward. Series of rough tackles then ensued and miraculously the first half ended without any cautions.

The Wolves however had chances to go ahead in the first half, but full credit must go to the Glory defence which refused to yield. The Wolves' Stuart Young and Glory's Despotovski missed good chances with hasty shots in front of goal. Young's miss was more-appalling as he attempted to chip over Perth's goalkeeper Jason Petkovic but only succeeded in planting the ball on top of the net. Soon after, a great shot from Wolves' Darren McDonald was well-gathered by Petkovic. The visitors also missed a few chances themselves as the Wolves defence prevented many balls crossing over the goalline.

Eventually it took a world class goal from Mori to open the account for the night. After the 36th minute opener, Perth domi-

nated more of the play and the game burst into life.

The start of the second half saw the Wolves trying to force the tempo upwards, but somehow they failed as Glory were content to sit on their lead and wait for counterattacks. A rash of yellow cards to Glory's Jamie Harnwell, Craig Dean, Despotovski and Michael Garcia nearly turned the game ugly as more vicious tackles from McDonald, Buddy Farah and Young saw them entering the referee's books.

Whe eventually both teams settled down to play some decent soccer in the driving rain, Wolves attempted some last-minute raids on the Glory area, but it was at the other end that dividends paid-off. Despotovski, ever-reliable on the wings, evaded two Wolves defenders and found the prowling Mori unmarked in the 88th minute. The lurking striker needed no further invitation to nod home the floated ball beyond the grasp of Wolves' goalie, Dean Anastasiadis.

It capped a miserable night for both the Wolves and their drenched fans, who again went home disappointed after expecting so much from the two-time champions.

National Soccer League

Olympic Sharks Melbourne Knights

0
1

By Mark Stavroulakis

On a cold and windy Saturday night, the Melbourne Knights secured their first win of the season by defeating Olympic Sharks 1-0 at Toyota Park.

In a game that produced many attacking chances for both sides, the night belonged to Knights custodian Martin John, who pulled off many heroic saves to earn his side three valuable points.

The goal for the Knights came early in the second half, when what looked to be a harmless free kick by captain Andrew Marth, was spilled by an always-consistent Clint Bolton.

The ball fell straight to the foot of Alex Kiratzoglou who celebrated his 100th appearance with a goal that sent the Knights on their way to victory.

In a game that saw the Olympic Sharks dominate with an array of chances, it was the home side that should have grabbed an early lead.

Former Joey Dylan Macalister cut a brilliant ball to Sharks captain Troy Halpin inside the box, who took a ferocious shot that saw Johns save brilliantly.

It was one of many saves for John as the Sharks continued to press on the Knights in every

counter-attack they had. Shots came in from all around the Knights box, as the bombardment of attacks continued with Halpin, Harris and Pondeljak going close to scoring that vital first goal for Olympic.

Second half saw a much-improved Knights side with Joel Porter going very close in the 49th minute, when his sliding shot hit the post, which gave the Sharks and early fright.

It wasn't to be for the Sharks as the Knights held their ground after Kiratzoglou's first goal, to win the game in front of a crowd of 5,213.

Apart from Kiratzoglou's goal, the Knights had Rod Vargas and Saso Ognenovski to thank with great defensive efforts by the pair.

Also Danny Vasilevski, Joe Tricarico and Joel Porter played their parts in the Knights attack

to secure the first win of the season for the Somers Street Club.

It was a case of bad luck for the home side who did all they could to break the Knights defence. With so many chances created by the Sharks, it was almost one-way traffic, however consistency payed off for the Knights, who stood their ground very well for the win.

Olympic had Troy Halpin and Tommy Pondeljak as their best as they created many problems for the Knights, also youngster Durante played well in the sweeper's role, alongside Wilson and Kohler.

The night however belonged to Knights keeper Martin John, who thwarted every attack made by the Sharks, and gifted the three precious points to the Melbourne Knights.



Olympic Sharks' Paul Kohler (left) runs away from Daniel Vasilevski of the Melbourne Knights.

Marconi Stallions Auckland Kingz

5
3

By Stuart Jones

Marconi opened up their home campaign on Saturday night with a dramatic 5-3 victory over the Kingz. A disappointing crowd of 2952 turned up at Marconi Stadium to witness no less than six goals in the last quarter of the match.

Marconi's first two goals came in the space of three minutes in the first half. Striker Norman Tome scored his first goal for Marconi in the 23rd minute with a free header from Jamie Afkos' cross and three minutes later powerful striker Royce Brownlie also found himself free in the area to make it 2-0 to Marconi.

Marconi (twice) and the Kingz (once), hit the woodwork after that, however Marconi was unable to convert any of its great opportunities so at half time the scoreboard remained locked at 2-0.

A rare, yet pleasing occurrence at Marconi Stadium, was the crowd loudly cheering the home side as it walked off at half time.

Unfortunately for the supporters though, the second half did not pan out like the first. The Kingz moved Harry Ngata into midfield and also introduced Levent Osman down the right as the New Zealanders started gaining more possession.

In the 67th minute dynamic striker Paul Urlovic stole the ball off Marconi's captain Dominic Longo and capitalised fully, slotting the ball into the back of the net.

Marconi responded with a fabulous goal from midfielder Shane Webb. Webby volleyed a poor clearance from the Kingz from 25 metres out that dipped under the bar and into the target. Not even two minutes later Kingz' Osman chested down a free kick cross from left midfielder Andy Vlahos and volleyed the ball home to make

the score 3-2.

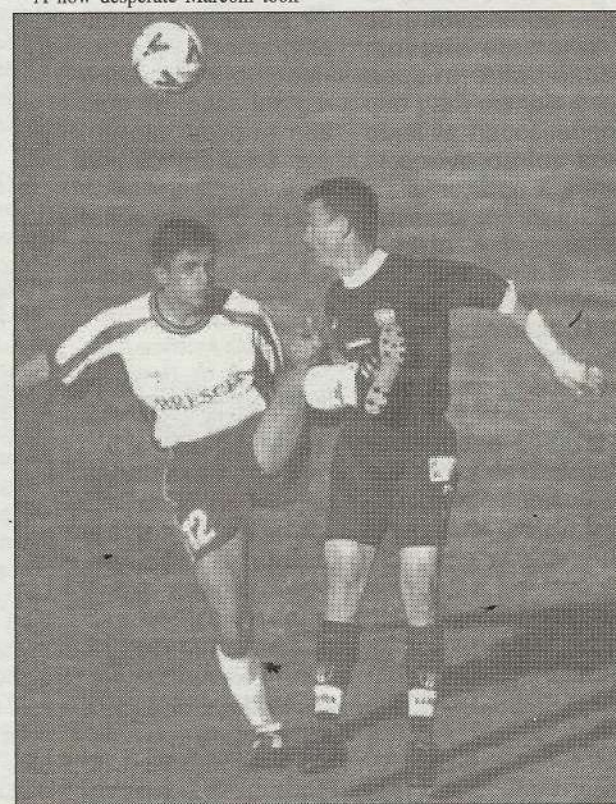
That was how it looked it would remain till fulltime, but just three minutes from time the Kingz were awarded a direct free kick from right in front of goal and on the edge of the penalty area after Marconi's sweeper Angelo Costanzo pulled at Wynton Rufer's leg in what looked to be a professional foul. Kingz's giant striker John Markovski was always going to take full advantage of such a golden situation and sure enough he blasted his free shot over Marconi's 'wall' and into the net.

With the scoreboard now registering 3-3, it seemed rough justice to Marconi, and with four minutes of injury time left, there was still a lot to play for.

A now desperate Marconi took

full advantage as substitutes Kevo Gullesterian and Sasa Radulovic worked together for Radulovic to slide the ball home and lift the home side once more into the lead. Even then the match was not over as Gullesterian showed off his talent by beating no less than three defenders, plus the goalkeeper in the box to slot home and make it 5-3 by the 94th minute.

After the match Kingz' manager Mike Petersen said his side had to learn how to win whilst Marconi's boss Lee Sterrey said his side was on target to achieve the seven points they wanted from their opening twelve. Sterrey was overall impressed with the way his side had played, especially in the first session.



Sasa Radulovic (left): Scored Marconi's fourth goal which proved to be the winner against the Football Kingz.

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*Requires Youth League Players
for the 2002 Soccer Season*

Dulwich Hill S.C. is a Super League club. The Club is a true multicultural Soccer Club, which is open to all who love Soccer and are keen to participate.



Where: Steel Park, Marrickville

Who: U/11's, U/12's, U/13's, U/14's, U/15's, U/17's

When: Tuesdays 16th, 23rd, 30th October

U/11's & U/12's & U/13's 6.00PM

Thursdays 18th, 25th October & 1st November

Enquiries:

Club Secretary

John Ferreira PH: 0412 076 212

Director of Coaching

Manny Rodriguez PH: 9546 1290

Youth League Secretary

Carlos Perestrelo PH: 0411 743 948

South Melbourne Sydney United

0
1

By Bert van Bedaf

Not even Michael Petkovic, back in goal as first-choice 'keeper ahead of Chris Jones after a loan stint in Norway, could save South Melbourne from its second defeat at home this season as the Lakesiders capitulated 1-0 to Sydney United at Bob Jane stadium last Sunday night.

United drilled home their advantage in the first half for their first win of the season, while South is yet to register full points.

Teenager Ray Sekulovski, who started in place of the injured Vaughan Coveny, watched his thundering shot hit the underside of the crossbar and bounce out again with five minutes left.

"It's three points and we

deserved victory. The boys worked their butts off," a delighted United coach Branko Culina said.

Culina questioned the five cautions his side received. "To get that many yellow cards is ridiculous," he said.

South coach Eddie Krncevic tried to take the edge of South's second loss, saying, "United defended well and they got their chance on the break. We lacked aggression again and a bit of height.

"I can't complain about the young boys (Santilli and Sekulovski), but maybe the old boys can lift their game. We're in a rebuilding phase and the depth isn't really there. We'll have to get in the transfer market," Krncevic said.

South created a handful of chances in the first half, yet it went into the break a goal down.

United defenders Michael Santalab and Marcus Stergiopoulos shut out the South attack, while 'keeper John Perosh proved strong in the air.

United got the winner in the 37th minute with what was effectively only its second good run on goal. Ante Moric had an opportunity to score on 30 minutes but put in a tame shot that went wide.

United captain Ante Milicic showed how it is done with an emphatic header from an Ante Deur cross. Left unmarked, Milicic headed home into the right corner past a stunned Petkovic.

South appeared to have won a penalty three minutes into the second half, when Moric brought down Buljan. Referee Con Diomis seemed to point to the spot but seconds later walked over to his linesman and after a brief consultation awarded a free-kick outside the box.



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Sarikakis on 9592 1169 or 0412 407 830
ASAP.**

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Next

Tuesday 30th October U11's & U12's 6pm

Wednesday 31st October U13, U14, U15, U17 6pm

**Note: Show of Interest for Women State
League Soccer need to Ring Peter Sarikakis
urgently on 9592 1169 or 0412 407 830.**

Farina wants Uruguay as likely opponents



By Bert van Bedaf

Let's get this straight. There's nothing to worry about as far as Hobart's Mercury newspaper is concerned.

The Tasmanian daily ran a headline in its sports pages, saying, "Aussies favoured to win world Soccer title," so here's a message to Socceroos coach Frank Farina, "Dear Frank, the Cup's as good as in the bag and bugger Uruguay."

Unfortunately, the good oil was a typo. It was a continuation from the real story on the back page, "Aussies hot tip for world hockey title." And that is the youth world cup played in the apple island.

Back to Soccer, like a diviner pointing to water, Australia's World Cup qualifying fate is firming towards Uruguay which would be the best possible outcome for the South American encounter.

To qualify, Australia needs to get past the fifth-best South American nation. At one stage four-time world champion Brazil loomed as a possible opponent, which would be a daunting prospect and too much to contemplate.

Colombia is the other, which would pose huge altitude problems and preferably is therefore to be avoided.

Recent results, and keep fingers crossed, are increasingly marking Uruguay at sea level as the most likely opponent. Socceroos coach Frank Farina is more or less banking on it and content with it.

"I've thought all along that it would be Uruguay. Colombia is still a chance, but it looks like Uruguay will be our opponent," Farina said.

Farina watched Uruguay draw 1-1 with Colombia in a recent South American qualifying match in Montevideo, the possible setting of Australia's away-leg. He returned on Tuesday, October 9, buoyed by the possibility.

Argentina has already

qualified. Paraguay, Ecuador and Brazil are set to follow the Argentines, hopefully leaving the Colombians floundering in thin air.

Soccer's world body FIFA wants all qualifying matches completed by November 25 in readiness for an early December draw. The World Cup will be held in Japan and South Korea mid-year in 2002.

The Socceroos are scheduled to meet their fifth-best opponent at the MCG on November 18, a week after they meet world and European champion France in a friendly at the same venue on November 11.

Theoretically, they would then briefly stay in a training camp and later fly out to play the likely Uruguayans the following week on November 25. But dates are hard to get confirmed.

The South American qualifiers finish on November 14. It would give Australia's opponent a few days to prepare hardly the sort of time-frame any nation would want to wager its World Cup future on. Yet, it might have to be done that way and it just might work in Australia's favor, although Farina is doubtful about that.

"FIFA is not going to give Australia any favors," Farina offered his own scenario. "I'm expecting FIFA to change the November 18 date," he said.

It would also delay the return leg in South America. From whichever angle, Australia's passage to World Cup glory is not going to be an easy one, but we're used to that not having qualified since 1974.

These pros and cons, of course, are all conjecture. The friendly match against France is going ahead and France is said to field its strongest team, including its England-based, World Cup heavyweight.

Australia also has had its England concerns over Leeds forwards Harry Kewell and Mark Viduka without whom Australia's chances of scoring would be greatly diminished. Both are confirmed starters against France and the qualifiers.

Kewell's deliberations have taken some time, including a prolonged dispute with Australian promoter International Entertainment Corporation that called his Aussie loyalty into question. Kewell has only made ten appearances for Australia and played only half a match

since Farina has been in charge.

"Barring injuries, the squad that will play France will be the squad for the South American qualifiers and as sure as the sun rises in the morning Harry (Kewell) will be here," Farina said.

Farina has great faith in the Sydney-born Kewell who left Australia as a teenager to eventually conquer the English Premier League. Together with Viduka, Kewell poses the perfect partnership for Leeds and Australia, Farina said.

"Harry (Kewell) possesses speed and technique. He can take people on. He is good in the air and he can score goals," Farina said.

The acrimonious dispute between Kewell and IEC was settled a few weeks ago, following an IEC apology, and Kewell declared his availability, including the match against France, which is nothing less than a dress rehearsal for Australia's final campaign towards World Cup qualification.

"The France match is very important. The French have class all over the field. It is great preparation (to play them) for us as we go into the South American match for World Cup qualification," Kewell said.

The Aussie forward also spoke out about his challenged loyalties towards the green and gold, saying, "I am as patriotic as any Australian. I consider it an honor to represent my country. When I pull on the green and gold, it is always special."

After all the tension and trauma for weeks, if not months, MCG spectators will see Australia at full strength against France and the South Americans, including all of its overseas top guns, and perhaps local Melbourne Knights and former overseas defender Steve Horvat in action as well.

Other Melbourne favorites may include Marco Bresciano (ex Bulleen and Carlton, now with Italy's Empoli) and Danny Tiatto (ex Melbourne Knights, with Manchester City).

Former Knights spearhead and Melbourne-grown Viduka long ago declared his loyalties were anchored to Australia.

Viduka would love nothing less than qualifying with the Socceroos, having ached over the Iran debacle at the MCG in 1997 that cost Australia qualification for

the 1998 World Cup in France. That time Australia surrendered a 2-0 lead to draw 2-2 and missed out.

"I'll never forget that game, but I really prefer not to remember it either," Viduka said.

"That game has stayed with us (Socceroos) for a long time. We want to qualify this time. It will be great for Australian football and I want to be part of the team that does," he said.

Australia won't be favorite to win the World Cup, but all of the nation wants the Socceroos to qualify for a second time and maybe one day get their hands on that coveted world trophy after all.



Australia's national players celebrating a fine outing recently while gunning for a 2002 World Cup ticket.

Vics return after shortened tour

By Bert van Bedaf

The Victorian state team returned from a tour of China with mixed emotions. The Blues were scheduled to play three matches but finished up playing only one game against national league side ShanXi Guoli Football Club in Xian on September 29.

A crowd of 15,000 watched the local side register a narrow 2-1 victory, but not before the Blues had given their Chinese opponent a decent scare and with a bit more accurate refereeing they could have won the encounter.

Victoria took the lead after ten minutes. A cross from Bulleen's Jimmy Latinopoulos reached Altona East forward Terry Antoniadis, who found the net with a sliding left foot from close range.

Five minutes later ShanXi equalised and Terry's brother Ross Antoniadis unfortunately deflected a cross into the Victorian goal after the break to give the home team a shallow win.

ShanXi's four Brazilian imports combined for the scores, but a video replay of the game showed the Chinese referee had been far too lenient on three crucial occasions.

Two minutes into the game one of the ShanXi defenders clearly handled the ball inside the area and Victoria should have been awarded a penalty. The defender should have been sent off.

Minutes later Green

Gully's Henry Velkovski, who captained Victoria, went down after a serious tackle that should have earned the ShanXi midfielder a red card as well and the equaliser involved a clear push in the back that should have been a free-kick for Victoria. Instead the ball fell right for one of



Peter Ollerton: Missed the China trip.

ShanXi's Brazilian stars, who leveled the score.

Victoria was scheduled to play two more matches, but once it became known that national league side South Melbourne had pulled out of its China tour following the attacks in New York and Washington, Chinese officials cancelled the other two games.

Victoria coach Harry Chalkitis, who won Coach of the Year last season with Victorian Premier League club and minor premier Port Melbourne, remained philosophical about the result and pleased for his team to have enjoyed the experience.

"We did not get a penalty and the player (who handled the ball) should have been sent off. The tackle on Velkovski also was a red card,

but (despite the poor decisions) a lot of positives have come from this trip. The fact that we won a lot of friends and we're going to be invited back again were the most important things for me," Chalkitis said.

Chalkitis was not supposed to take charge as Victoria's coach until next year. But Peter Ollerton, who won Coach of the Year the season before last with Altona East and coached the Bergers to last season title, was unable to go to China because of work commitments.

Because the tour was cut short, Chalkitis made sure all players got a run in the match against ShanXi.

"Regardless of the result, I had the responsibility to make sure everybody was part of the match. The fact that eleven players had to start wasn't a negative on the other players," said Chalkitis, who made five substitutions.

"We were supposed to play three matches, but we only played one. When we were told South Melbourne had pulled out (of its China tour), the Chinese people felt unsure that we might pull the plug as well. But that was furthest from our minds. We were totally committed to the tour," Chalkitis said.

Several Victorian Soccer Federation officials accompanied the team, comprising team manager George Angelopoulos, tour manager Vasco Stojceviski, VSF chief executive Geoff Miles, VSF chairman Manny Galanos and Soccer Australia commissioner Joe Brondolino.

"The team put up an excel-

lent performance, which was acknowledged by a standing ovation from the home crowd," Galanos said.

"They certainly appreciated the attacking flair shown by Victoria. Whilst a win would have been a more fitting reward for a quality performance, Harry (Chalkitis) can be proud of the display shown by his team against a full time professional opponent with four Brazilian imports.

"The goodwill and contacts created from the tour are also encouraging for future international games for the Victorian team. After only one year since its reintroduction, the senior state team concept is proving successful. It promises to go from strength to strength in future years," he said.

The squad that played in China comprised (first eleven) Jimmy Kourtis (goal keeper, Heidelberg United), Jim Latinopoulos (Bulleen), Jean-Paul Knezevic (Port Melbourne), Mile Medjedovic (Heidelberg), Ross Antoniadis (Altona East), Henry Velkovski (Green Gully), Nick Tsaltas (Port), Juan Nilo (Bentleigh Greens), Doug Mladenovic (Bentleigh), Zoran Todorovski (Altona Magic), Terry Antoniadis (Altona East).

Substitutions: Peter Groidis (Altona East) for Mladenovic, Danny Gnjdjic (Bulleen) for Latinopoulos, Alfonso Opazo (Heidelberg) for Nilo, Chris Emsovski (Preston) for Tsaltas, Eric Vassiliadis (Heidelberg) for Todorovski.



Robbie Dunn (middle) with Socceroo coach Frank Farina (left) and former Northern Ireland international, Norman Whiteside.

Perth Glory is benchmark of Oz Soccer — Robbie Dunn

Starting from a humble beginning with Kwinana United through to his 38 appearances in a Socceroo shirt, Robbie Dunn has had an enormously successful Soccer career in Australia.

As a consequence, Soccer Australia inducted Robbie into the Australian Soccer Hall of Fame recently, with an Award of Distinction. Robbie spoke to RICHARD KREIDER about his many experiences in the game and his secret desire to one day assist Perth Glory.

RK: What does the Award of Distinction honour mean to you Robbie.

RD: It came out of the blue since I had been out of the national scene for ten years.

It certainly is nice to get such an award and a great honour.

RK: Who originally introduced you to the world game.

RD: I was born in Paisley, Scotland and left for Australia when I was eight, so it was already in my blood. I grew up in Rockingham but in those days I had to ride a bike to Kwinana to play.

RK: You played 38 times for your country at senior level. Are there any particular memories that stand out for you.

RD: I have many memories. I played in the NSL for seven years and five of these were also with the Socceroos.

A special memory for me is when we beat Yugoslavia in the 1988 Olympics in South Korea when it was an open age competition.

They were tipped to win the Gold or

Silver medal but Frank Farina scored the only goal of the game. Even Charlie Yankos missed a penalty. Another was the 1988 Bicentennial Tournament win against Argentina, when they had 10 of their World Cup squad playing. That was just phenomenal.

RK: Guess, in terms of disappointments it would have been nice to cap off your career with a World Cup Finals appearance.

RD: The 1986 World Cup campaign meant we had to play the second team in a particular European group and that just happened to be Scotland then.

We lost 2-0 at Hampden against a side that fielded the likes of Kenny Dalglish.

We should have beaten them in Melbourne but we could only manage a 0-0 draw.

RK: Frank Farina has already expressed his opinion about FIFA's selection criteria Australia has to endure. What are your thoughts on it.

RD: Soccer is politically driven and with FIFA it's even more so. I think if the USA can qualify, so should we. If we played the USA ten times in a row, we would beat them nine out of the ten. It's a shame Oceania isn't given a bit more respect because our top Socceroos team would see clubs from all over the world clamoring to sign any of those players.

RK: Do you think there are too many Australians playing overseas.

RD: We are always going to be a feeder ground for the big clubs. Personally, I

think the NSL will eventually become a youth competition because if you look at the average age of the kids these days and compare them to the players in my day.

I was 20-years-old when I got into the NSL. It's unfortunate that the great Australian players of the future will not play here until they return and are in their thirties.

RK: What has Perth Glory done to the NSL in your eyes.

RD: It has made them sit up and take notice. Nick Tana and Paul Afkos have

done very well. Perth Glory to me is the benchmark of Australian domestic Soccer and I think they are only going to get bigger.

Now with the FIFA Club World Championships, businessmen like the Tanas will be determined to participate. There is no other sporting domestic competition in Australia that offers you the chance to earn seven million dollars in an overseas tournament.

RK: What is your opinion of the recent collapses of NSL clubs.

RD: It's the tyranny of business in Australia isn't it. It's also a pity the government doesn't get behind Soccer like they do with cricket and Aussie Rules. They still see it as a foreign sport and until they get behind it we are always going to have trouble.

RK: Do you think Soccer will ever become strong in this country.

RD: I think it is strong now Richard. The move to summer Soccer was the best thing it ever did. If you notice, the Sports Tonight type shows and the media generally, are covering it because the winter sports are out of the way. I don't know if it is going to get much bigger, but I can see it getting more professional.

RK: You must be pleased to see Channel Seven giving the NSL more exposure this season.

RD: It's terrific for the kids especially, who can now see more Soccer and who will start dreaming of seeing themselves on TV playing for your Perth Glory's and South Melbourne's and perhaps even go on to the national scene.

RK: How vital is it for Australia to make the WC finals this time around.

RD: It's critical, but I think it's a joke that we have to play a team from a different federation. It's this political thing again.

Who would FIFA want in the World Cup Finals, Brazil or Australia? In the 1985 qualifying campaign, we flew to Israel, returned to play them at home, then a few days later we had to fly to Hampden to play Scotland and return home again! Let's be fair dinkum about it.

RK: Are you considering taking up another senior coaching position at any stage.

RD: I would love nothing better than to help the Perth Glory in some capacity. I look at many of my past team mates who they are now working in the NSL in various roles including that of coach.

I know I've got the communication skills and knowledge of the game as well as the respect of my peers. It's just whether or not there is an opportunity for me I guess. I wish the Glory well and if there is any chance of an involvement for Robbie Dunn, I'd love to talk to someone about it.

To me, it's just a shame WA Soccer can't utilise people with that sort of experience. I know I can coach and I know I can do a good job, but you can't do it unless you get asked.

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David Beckham: England's flamboyant national skipper.

Letters to the Editor

Okon needs all our support

Dear Sir,
I was watching the Saturday, October 13 edition of Soccer Scene and was impressed by Paul Okon's admission that new Middlesbrough coach, Steve McClaren should be given time to settle down in the new season. Not for him any bitterness and anger that he has not featured in McClaren's plans or sides so far in the new season.

The Socceroos captain even revealed that he was always the last player to leave the training pitch cos he put in extra hours to see if he could improve himself

and eventually convince McClaren that he is worthy of selection.

That's the Paul, and how proud are we all that someone with such a personality and attitude is leading Australia's quest for a World Cup final ticket. Lots of other players would have cried foul and heaped allegations against the coach and the team, but good old Paul has hung in there and sweated extra more to see that he gets McClaren's attention.

Despite Middlesbrough's not-too-impressive start to the English season, I think they will pick up and Okon will eventually play a major role in the fight for honours. As fellow-Aussie and teammate, Mark Schwarzer said, the English season is a 38-week competition, so there was heaps of time and lots of games to go for Okon to break into the team and reclaim his position.

It is at times like these that Okon, who has always given his all to Australia, needs our support. He might not be finding things going according to his expectations at his club, but if he knows that all Australia is behind him and rooting for him, he will bounce back.

That, I'm sure of!

Paul Darcy,
Ballarat, VIC



Paul Okon: Down but not out.

England, not yet the Dream Team

Dear Sir,
As an English-born football supporter, I am naturally pleased to see my national team in the 2002 World Cup finals.

One thing that worries me though is the number, and manner of goals conceded during the group games, while goal keeper are not entirely at fault

in his statistic, it must be a worry for the English manager.

In the whole of the Premier League I can only find four keepers who are English. Seaman who is way past his used by date, James of West Ham, injured and like dracula afraid of crosses; Nigel Martyn, luckily behind a back four at

Leeds that give nothing away; and Walker ex-Spurs now at Leicester.

'Nuff said, it's alright Beckham scoring goals at one end, but who's one to stop them at the other.

Vic Heath,
Duffy, ACT.

Unfair slanging by SBS

Dear Sir,
I would like to congratulate Channel 7 for a very good Sunday morning programme at 11.00 am.

However, sadly when I switched over to On The Ball on SBS afterwards I was very disappointed to see that two icons of Australian soccer were

ridiculed: Rale Rasic and Les Scheinflug.

It was part of the 'tongue-in-cheek' poll of who should sing the national anthem at the MCG before the World cup qualifier.

The contenders were: Con the fruiterer, The Wiggles, Jimmy Barnes, Rasic and

Scheinflug.

From a public broadcaster, costing the taxpayer lots of money, we expect the highest standards.

How can the national anthem and two icons of Australian soccer be mocked? SBS should publicly apologise to the two gentleman involved because,

irrespective of personalities, both Rasic and Scheinflug are part of Australian soccer history.

Sadly, I feel SBS won't offer any apology and letters such as these tend to be ignored despite ABSW being delivered to their office.

Joe Russo

Good job, Channel 7

Dear Editor,
I want to commend Channel Seven for a job well done so far in the coverage of the NSL. Everyone of us felt the day would never come when we would all enjoy free-to-air-broadcast of NSL games just as being done in the NRL and the AFL. At last, it has come to pass, all thanks to Channel 7.

This will definitely boost the

interest of most-sceptical fans who have been scared away by endless negativity and stories of incompetence in Australian soccer. At last, we are now seeing an NSL that is cleaning up its act and putting the interest of players, clubs and the fee-paying fans top of its list.

More of such please.

Edgar Allan,
Campbelltown, SA

NSL needs a change

Dear Editor

If Soccer Australia adopts a recommendation of its Soccer 21 document which called for a 12-team national soccer league and a 12-team second division as said by Joe Brundolino on the (SBS On The Ball program) it could look something like this:

NSL Division 1

Adelaide Force, Gold Coast Strikers, Marconi Stallions, Melbourne Knights, Newcastle United, Northern Spirit, Olympic Sharks, Parramatta Power, Perth

Glory, South Melbourne, Sydney United, Wollongong Wolves.

NSL Division 2

Adelaide Birkalla, Blacktown Demons, Brisbane Lions, Bulleen Zebras, Canberra, Central Coast Coasties, Eastern Pride, Fremantle City, Green Gully Cavaliers, Heidelberg Warriors, Hobart, St George Dragons.

Two teams up and two down between the divisions would be the way to go.

Gary Cerulli
Oatlands, NSW

Dear Sir,
Read in a copy of The Sunday Telegraph, last week that Sydney United coach, Branko Culina is pleading with Dutch giants, Ajax Amsterdam to release his son, Jason, from a frustrating session at the club so that he could kickstart his stalled career here in Australia.

After three years in the famed Dutch side, methinks the decision by Culina to bring Jason back to Australia will be the best thing for the young bloke. After all the pomp and hoopla over going over to Europe for the proverbial "big break", it's sad that most players that leave the shores of this country hardly ever get the opportunity to prove themselves.

The chances of Jason breaking into the Ajax senior side remain just that - chances, and the earlier he returns home to relaunch his career, the better for him.

Ajax, just like heaps of other European top sides are always inundated with young, highly-skilled players who flock to their famed nurseries to hone their skills. Players from all over the world, as far apart and diverse as South America and Africa, come to Ajax, so it even presents more formidable obstacle for a player with Jason's background to get attention.

Even Culina admitted that, "there is no doubt he has lost his confidence". Anyone would after languishing in the reserves for close to three years without any hope of making the move upwards to the first team.

In the light of Jason's plight, it



Jason Culina: Stuck at Ajax.

should serve as a lesson to all eager-beaver, youth, Aussie players who are often lured by promises of instant fame and amazing riches, that it is not all a sweet story going over to Europe.

True there are huge prospects over there, but it also carries with it heaps of pressure, competition, stress and expectations all heaped on young players' shoulders.

Chances are that Jason would have already made a bigger impact here in the NSL if he had tarried awhile and stuck with Sydney Olympic. Let's hope it's not too late to resuscitate his soccer career.

Phil O'Shier,
Townsville, NSW.

OFF THE CROSSBAR



By Allan Crisp

GREATS OF THE EIGHTIES

Every once in a while it's good for the soul to take a stroll down memory lane.

Many sensational developments happened in the not so merry month of May in 1981 when the most disturbing sporting result was our senior Socceroos' capitulation to New Zealand.

That World Cup collapse brought the resignation of Rudi Gutendorf, the German supremo, who chose so many players in his national squad that even lowly division scrubbers complained about their omission.

However, the giant bone of contention in South Australia at the time was that Gutendorf did not include a single local in his final selection of the national squad.

Meanwhile, the Australian team players who were chosen became so discontented that they threatened mutiny, while Gutendorf counter charged that his men had let him down. The bomb eventually was defused when Les Scheinflug succeeded Gutendorf in the number one coaching job.

The call also went out for the resignation of the then Australian Soccer Federation president Sir Arthur George.

Unrest and uncertainty prevailed during the drama-charged 1980's when excesses were being nurtured as the norm.

South Australians, in particular, were looking for some cheer amidst the gloom and found it when flamboyant coach Peter Jaksa led the State Under 18 side to the national youth team championship.

That success brought the trophy to Adelaide for the first time since 1972 when Jaksa also was the man behind the triumph.

Jaksa, in fact, had the excellent success rate of guiding the SA Youth team to three national finals from four attempts.

Who were those stars of the future? Well now there was Tony Dorigo, who left our shores to play for Aston Villa and later became an English international; Joe Mullen, Steve Maxwell, Peter Rankin and the late Paul Wilde, all of whom played NSL for Adelaide City; Mike Barnett, who played NSL for Canberra Arrows and West Adelaide and later coached Port

Lion Pirates and South Australia and Brenton Hiern, who played NSL for West Adelaide and coached at SASI level.

For good measure, Mullen, now Bulleen Zebras coach and Maxwell, currently assistant coach at Hills Hawks, also later became senior Socceroos.

The SA Youth squad's first choice goalkeeper was David Miller, who progressed to play NSL with West Adelaide and Melbourne Knights and is now custodian for the Playford Patriots.

Others of the circa '81 squad to blossom at senior SA Premier level were, Ian Cole, Daryl Pankhurst, Frank Boetel, Jim Vahviolos, Alan Miller, Zeljko Blagojevic, Paul Kitchin and Frank Boetel. Jaksa also proved he had what it takes by coaching West Adelaide at national league level.

BOUND FOR GLORY?

Damian Mori and Brad Hassell once formed a lethal combination at Adelaide City Force and the pair could soon be reunited at Perth Glory.

Glory has shown a keen interest in acquiring Hassell, who is seeking release from the contract that has two more seasons to run.

Hassell has important allies in Perth men, Mori and goalkeeper Jason Petkovic, who were mates when they all strutted their stuff with City.



Brad Hassell: Eyeing a move from Adelaide City to Perth Glory.

South Melbourne also would like to snare Hassell, but can't match the Perth bank roll. Meanwhile, negotiations continue between Force and Glory.

GENEROUS

Adelaide City players are so generous that they are willing to give fans the shirts off their backs. This season, City, sporting the slogan, "A New Face, A New Attitude," have decided to auction the shirt worn by the player adjudged as the best of the night at each home game.

The auction will take place during the post match presentations in the grandstand clubrooms.

SLOW MOTION

Last season's Summer Soccer Series was an instant success when 20 Premier League and State League teams tested their pre-winter season strengths.

However, clubs have been slow to respond for the 2002 competition. At press time 15 clubs had forwarded applications to compete in the series.

Surprisingly, the most notable absentees from those to accept when the SASF closed its doors at the end of business, were Premier League finalists, the Blue Eagles and the Modbury Jets.

Meanwhile, stand by for several coaching changes among the Premier and State League ranks for next season.

NICE WIN

Adelaide City gathered a tidy \$470,000 from the State Government to switch its administrative infrastructure from Hindmarsh Stadium to Ram Park at Oakden.

\$370,000 of that amount was directed towards securing Ram Park, the previous home of the now defunct Adelaide Rams Rugby League club, for the Soccer club.

According to Auditor General Ken MacPherson's 570-page report on the building of the Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide City was also granted \$16,000 for losses and inconvenience caused during its switch of venues.

The report, submitted to State Parliament, also says that City is entitled to a \$8,000 fee on match days, two corporate boxes, chairman's suite, 250 middle deck grandstand seats and catering concessions.

The club also has the exclusive option to buy Ram Park for \$570,000 in 2002.

City was asked to relocate from the Hindmarsh Stadium to accommodate the Olympic Football tournament at the facility in September last year.

The Olympic tournament returned a \$800,000 profit from the 11 nights of competition when more than 111,000 fans attended the seven matches.

A record attendance of 18,345 was set at the quarter-final between Japan and the United States.

That record is unlikely to be eclipsed because temporary seating was installed at four sections of the stadium for the duration of the tournament.

Allan Crisp can be heard on the SRPH (1197AM) Marshall Thompson Homes/Pacific Real Estate Breakfast Soccer Show each Tuesday from 7am-9am, along with Phil Scardigno, Peter Millar, The Advertiser Soccer writer Meno Toutsidis and producer Rob Popplestone from Channel 10.

Former Australian international and Adelaide City coach John Perin joins Crisp for the SRPH SOS (Soccer On Sunday) program each Sabbath from 8.30am-9.30am to present the latest Soccer news, views and interviews from NSL, local and overseas sources.



Blue Devils' Launch (L-R) Anthony Giannasca, Lino Fiorese, Steve Lazzari.

NSW PREMIER FINALS IS DEVILS' TARGET

By Graham Cooke

The goal for Belconnen Blue Devils can be nothing less than the NSW Premier League finals, coach Lino Fiorese said at the club's season launch last week.

The league's ACT representative finished seventh out of 10 clubs last season, but with the collapse of the Canberra Cosmos have picked up a number of quality additions.

No fewer than nine of the 19 players named in the 2001-02 squad have played NSL football at some time, the majority as recently as last season.

Fiorese said the strengthened squad meant additional pressure throughout the club.

"There are people who are already making us championship favourites, which means there will be disappointment and questions asked the moment we get a bad result," he said.

"But there's also pressure on all the players who may want to get back into the NSL. This is the stage on which they have to perform if they want to be noticed.

"We couldn't have asked for a more difficult start against the likes of Bonnyrigg, Blacktown and Bankstown who have all spent hefty sums of money in strengthening themselves. If we can pick up some results against them, we will have the basis for a good season.

Captain and goalkeeper Anthony Giannasca was

unwilling to make comparisons with Canberra Deakin for which he played during much of that club's successful run in the NSW League, between 1988 and 1994.

"It was a long time ago, and there were some very talented players around," he said. "But I am excited about the squad we have got together this time, they have the making of the ideal team, with experience, technical ability and strength in depth.

"If we can bond together, we will be a formidable outfit."

Last season's Player of the Year, Steve Lazzari,

agreed it would be difficult to repeat his 14-goal haul, which also made him the season's joint highest scorer.

"I know defences will be waiting for me this time, but with the quality of players around me, it doesn't worry me that much."

Asked about the feelings of the players over the Cosmos' demise he said it was difficult to give a diplomatic answer. "I guess the reaction is that it was all a joke, both because of the poor administration on the part of the club, and the way it was treated by Soccer Australia."



Tony Giannasca

'Mackinnon Turns Soccer Samaritan In The Philippines'

GRAEME MACKINNON, the former star flank-striker for the great Apia side of the mid-60s early 70s, as well as for the NSW State team, has for the past 11 years transformed himself into a some type of a 'Soccer Samaritan'.

Since retiring from Soccer, (1973), Graeme has been coaching kids in poverty-stricken Cebu over in the Philippines.

The former darting goalscorer briefly ducked back into Australia early last week for a brief visit.

Graeme contacted us last week-end to inform ABSW that he was ever-so grateful for a small piece which appeared in the 'Good Oil' columns some months ago, appealing to readers for any old Soccer equipment that people no longer needed and which he could well use over in the Philippines to hand out to the kids he coaches.

Well that small piece caught the eye of one of our loyal readers, Mr Charlie Davidson, who responded immediately.

Mr Davidson, the Director of Soccer at the Sydney Grammar School, himself a former player with Apia before moving to play for Sydney Croatia back in 1971, late last week donated no less than 18 Soccer balls plus a stack of field markers towards Mackinnon's appeal.

The highly grateful Graeme flew out this morning (Tuesday) to return to his 'mission of Soccer' in Cebu.

But last week-end, we were able to catch up with Graeme Mackinnon the former star striker of Apia, who quickly filled us in on his philanthropic Soccer activities in the 'jungles of the Philippines'.

Solidly backed by the "M. Lhuillier Sports Development Foundation", Mackinnon is doing wonders for the kids in Cebu.

Mackinnon's Mission

The "M. Lhuillier Sports Development Foundation" was started in Cebu Province in 1995 with Cebu businessman Michel Lhuillier funding the grassroots development programme ever since its inception.

Cebu is an island just an hour by plane South of Manila, in the heart of the Visayas region.

Cebu has little Soccer tradition as it is predominantly a basketball stronghold.

Graeme Mackinnon elaborated to ABSW:

"We launched our pro-

gramme in Carmen, a township 40 kilometres North of Cebu City in 1995. This town has now become our headquarters and up until this time, the only boys who played Soccer in the town were the boys of the Foundation.

"We have 50 boys split into three Age Groups, the Under 15s, 9s and 8s. There are no Soccer fields in Carmen, so obviously there are no Soccer posts.

"We hope to get enough funds plus some Local Government support to enable us to install posts in the playground of the local Primary School where we practice. Hopefully we'll be able to do this by early next year.

"When I set up the Foundation back in 1995, I promised the young players back then that if I believed they showed enough potential, I would bring them here to Australia to expose them to a higher level of Soccer.

"I'm now working hard to raise \$50,000, either through direct financial, or "in kind" sponsorship, or through the tried and tested Aussie method of going out there and asking for donations, as well as staging fundraising activities such as live concerts and movie premieres.

"The money will be used to bring the team down to Australia in July 2002," Mackinnon contemplates.

Should he be successful in generating the required funds, Mackinnon is planning a trip for his young Soccer students they will never forget.

To kick off the tour, the boys who are born in 1986 (U/16), will play a series of matches on the Gold Coast. That would be followed by the participation in the Kanga Cup that will be staged in Canberra. Following the Kanga Cup Mackinnon would like to have a week in Sydney with his young squad.

Several notable coaches, including Raul Blanco and Les Scheinflug, have indicated their willingness to put the boys through some practice sessions Kelly Cross, Staff

Coach of the N.S.W. Soccer Federation, will arrange a game with the Institute of Sport team at Parklea.

The industrious

Special feature by John Economos

"I am leaving for Hong Kong on Tuesday, (today), and whilst I'm in Hong Kong

Secretary of the Hong Kong Football Association.

"The sole purpose of this

I'll be meeting up with Martin Lam, the General

meeting will be to discuss the possibilities of playing a friendly game over there during our stopover on the way back to Cebu. I will discuss other matters with him and try to forge a relationship

Mackinnon.

Best of luck in all your endeavours Graeme.

Graeme Mackinnon's Record

Mackinnon joined the great Apia Club in 1964 as a speedy goalscoring winger, making his debut into First Grade a year later. In 1965 Graeme played in Apia's great Grand Final team that defeated the also great St George Budapest team by 2-0

In 1969 Mackinnon again played in the NSW Grand Final and again the opponent was St George Budapest who led 2-0 with nine minutes left on the clock.

Unbelievably, Apia defeated St George 3-2, (with central striker Ernie Campbell scoring a shattering hat-trick in the last nine minutes). However for Graeme it was a mixed night as unfortunately he broke his ankle in that memorable battle of the giants.

The earlier that same year, Mackinnon was selected in the NSW State side that played against the touring Greek side. The following year Mackinnon was again selected for the NSW team that played against the giants of Czechoslovakia, Inter Bratislava.

Graeme Mackinnon an outstanding sportsman, retired from First Class Soccer in 1973.



GRAEME MACKINNON: Seen here in full flight with defender Manfred Schaefer in pursuit, whilst playing for Apia in the 1965 Grand Final against St George Budapest at Sydney's Wentworth Park. Apia defeated St George 2-0.

Mackinnon is also hopeful of being able to arrange more games against some of the NSL club's Under 16 teams under lights, if possible.

Former Australian World Cup goalkeeping great, Jimmy Fraser, currently in charge of the Australian Goalkeepers Academy, has graciously offered to include two of Mackinnon's goalkeepers in any practice sessions that he would be conducting whilst they are at Parklea.

Mackinnon strongly believes that the Sydney segment of their trip will be very exciting for the players, as well as the coaches.

"We know that we can never hope to match it with these players which isn't the point for us coming here. We will come here to learn as much as we can in the short period of time that we will be here.

"It will be a further part of the boys' learning curve.

"An experience that I hope will motivate the boys even more upon their return to the Philippines.

NAVEN SWEATS FOR CHARITY

By Richard Kreider

Perth Glory captain Gareth Naven (seen right), dabbing a paint brush to the seats of the new Gareth Naven Charity Corner area of the southern stand during a busy-bee at Perth Oval just hours before the opening game of the season.

Glory nominated two different charities each season and invite a number of their people to each of the games.

We thought it would be a good idea to improve the profile of our charity involvement by using the captain's name in conjunction, simply because of the way he has been with the club," said Glory's acting Marketing Manager Justin Everley.

Our 'VIP's' are picked up in the Glory bus and introduced to the players before they watch the game. We even supply a Chicken Treat



Gareth Naven: Doing some paint work for the Gareth Naven Charity Corner.

meal and souvenirs," said Everley.

Meanwhile, Naven is still recovering from a recurring groin injury and is not expected to return to the side for at least another couple of months. But while Perth Glory coach Mich d'Avray has named Naven as club captain for the season, d'Avray decided to nominate a different captain for each game.

Scott Miller was given the skippers armband for the opening fixture at South Melbourne, it was Brad Maloney's turn against his former club Marconi Stallions, and Matt Horsley for last weekends clash at his ex-club Wollongong Wolves.

D'Avray said he was inspired by Hockeryoo coach Ric Charlesworth's move of distributing the leadership duties among the players." The whole idea is to eventually have 11 captains out on the field," said d'Avray.

NEW SOUTH WALES PREMIER LEAGUE



FEATURE MATCH

Belconnen Blue Devils



VS



Bankstown City Lions

Kick-off: 6.30pm & 4.30pm, Saturday 27 October, 2001

Venue: West Belconnen Sports Grounds, Hardwick Crescent, HOLT ACT

Bankstown faces a difficult assignment this week as they travel down the Hume Highway to the national capital to face Belconnen.

Lions coach Claudio Canosa was happy with his side's first round result, a hard fought 2-2 draw with the Central Coast, and even happier his side that has no major injuries at this stage of the season.

"It was a tough game with a lot of end-to-end action and the 2-2 draw I believe was a fitting result," said Canosa. "We went down to Canberra four weeks ago for a friendly game so we know only too well what it's like to travel and play down there and that will stand the boys in good stead. Belconnen are a talented side and move the ball around the park very well,

and with a number of their boys with national league experience, they are a very hard side to match up against."

New Lions striker Colin Luff played a full game against Central Coast and troubled the Coasties defence on a number of occasions. "He is a very talented player and we are looking for another big game from him this week," said Canosa.

Belconnen took their game against Bonnyrigg last Saturday night right down to the wire, showing enough to convince the judges they will be a very hard side to beat this year.

The Blue Devils were without David Arranz (ankle) and Toplica Popovich (quad strain) with both players expected to train this week and undergo

a fitness test prior to kickoff.

Coach Lino Fiorese is looking forward to the Lions visit, confident his side will improve from round one. "It's up to us to play well in front of our home crowd against a quality side like Bankstown," said Fiorese.

"We expect Bankstown to be tough. They were the Premiers in the Winter Super League and have strengthened in the off-season, with a number of quality players. They'll be keen to play well after their draw with the Central Coast so we will need to be at our best to trouble them."

Fiorese is expected to make some changes to the lineup that lost to Bonnyrigg, with substitute Daniel Camara coming off the bench and making a huge impact in the last twenty minutes.



PREMIER LEAGUE

ROUND 2

Friday October 26

St George Saints vs Fairfield Bulls St George Std 8.00pm 6.00pm

Saturday October 27

Bonnyrigg WE vs P'matta Eagles Serbian Centre 7.00pm 5.00pm
Belconnen BD vs Bankstown City W Belconnen SG 6.30pm 4.30pm
Blacktown City vs Central Coast Gabbie Stadium 7.00pm 5.00pm
S'land Sharks vs C'bury-M'ville Seymour Shaw 7.00pm 5.00pm

Sunday October 28

Leichhardt Tigers vs Penrith Panthers Lambert Park 5.00pm 3.00pm

ROUND 3

Saturday November 3

Fairfield Bulls vs Bonnyrigg WE Nineveh Field 7.00pm 5.00pm
Belconnen vs Blacktown City W Belconnen SG 6.30pm 4.30pm
Central Coast vs S'land Sharks Plum Park 7.00pm 5.00pm
Penrith Panthers vs C'bury-M'ville Andrews Rd 7.00pm 5.00pm

Sunday November 4

Leichhardt Tigers vs St George Saints Lambert Park 5.00pm 3.00pm
P'matta Eagles vs Bankstown City Melita Stadium 6.30pm 4.30pm

SQUADS

BLUE DEVILS: 1. Anthony Giannasca, 2. Toplica Popovich, 3. Matthew Cachia, 4. Elliot Zwangobani, 5. Nic Purdue, 6. Shane Lyons, 8. Michael Katz, 9. Stephen Lazzari, 10. Daniel Macor, 11. David Arranz, 12. Jaime Mauro, 13. Stewart Camara, 14. Elia Salloum, 15. Paul Gagetti, 16. Oscar Zamora, 17. Stephen Kemp, 18. Lee Pietrukowski, 19. Daniel Camara, 20. Rade Kosanovic. **Coach:** Lino Fiorese

LIONS: 1. Zlatko Josevski, 2. Sefer Yildiz, 3. Richard Luksic, 4. Bryan Raeburn, 5. Anthony Kanaan, 6. Paul Wearne, 7. George Issa, 8. Robert Issa, 9. Goce Trposki, 10. Iain MacDonald, 11. Alex Trpkoski, 12. Adam Mammoliti, 13. Harry Karl, 14. Erkin Elveren, 15. Damien Luksic, 16. Colin Luff, 17. Steven Dimitrievski, 18. Samer Nicola, 19. Hossam Nouh, 20. Cem Akilli.

Coach: Claudio Canosa

Catch up with all the latest news on the Premier League and other NSW Soccer news on our website:

www.soccernsw.com.au



Official clothing supplier to NSW Soccer Federation



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- Match Reports P16-17
- Leichhardt Tigers in focus P18
- Scoreboard P19



Oscar Zamora

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Belconnen Soccer Club, UhlSport, McGuigan Wines, bestvalueIT.com,
Pacific Painting and Sharp Direct



NSW Premier League



PREVIEW ROUND TWO

CLASH OF THE EAGLES



Bonnyrigg White Eagles

VS

Parramatta Eagles



KICK-OFF: 7pm & 5pm, Saturday 27 October 2001

VENUE: Serbian Centre, 13 Simpson Road, Bonnyrigg

Bonnyrigg started their season on the right foot when they accounted for Belconnen at home last Saturday night.

The club is going through an injury 'mini crisis' with three first-graders all sidelined with various problems. Tayfun Devrimol has cruciate ligament problems and at best is out for 12 weeks. Michael Hawrysiuk had stitches inserted into his ankle after a car accident and is out for four weeks and goalkeeper Fernando Greco has a broken foot and will not kick a ball in anger until early December.

The only player to be added to the squad will be Shane Knight who is fit again after rolling his ankle just prior to round one. Parramatta Eagles assistant coach John Calleja is confident his side can do a job on the White Eagles this weekend.

"The boys have had a good pre-season and are brimming with confi-

dence," said Calleja. Our strike force is a lot better this year. Jim Bakis is fully fit and firing. Daniel Kukucka

likewise and Mirko Jurilj has impressed everybody with his skill and experience."

SQUADS

WHITE EAGLES: 1. Fernando Greco, 2. Sasha Utjesenovic, 4. Bobby Dragas, 5. Tayfun Devrimol, 6. Vuko Tomasevic, 7. Javier Mancino, 8. David Harding, 9. Shane Knight, 10. Christopher Bradley, 11. Johnny Ghiso, 13. Robert Gomez, 14. Leigh Gunn, 15. Peter Cklamovski, 16. Michael Hawrysiuk, 17. Jimmy Aschner, 18. John Kyriazopoulos, 20. Trinity Allen, 22. Rajko Mandic, 23. Devrim Huseyin, **Coach:** Greg Woodhouse

EAGLES: 1. Jason Holmes, 2. Daniel Borg, 3. Geoff Dwyer, 4. Malcolm Meilak, 5. Mark Reveley, 6. Mirko Jurilj, 7. Mauricio Islas, 8. Daniel Kukucka, 9. Daniel Cummins, 10. Tony Mittiga, 11. Jim Bakis, 12. Glenn Sprod, 13. Adam Snyder, 14. Stephen Chipps, 15. Ben Delicata, 16. Anthony Mondello, 17. Ben Xerri, **Coach:** Tam Finlayson

BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES ARE PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
B & S WINDOWS



Blacktown City Demons

VS

Central Coast Coasties



KICK-OFF: 7pm & 5pm, Saturday 27 October 2001

VENUE: Gabbie Stadium, Quinn Ave, Seven Hills

Blacktown City was a shock 5-2 loser to Canterbury-Marrickville last Friday night.

They had defender Paul Yates marched very early on and didn't recover from that setback. Yates will miss this week's game with suspension but injury doubts over Damon Langan and Paul Dee have been dispelled.

Central Coast troubled the fancied Bankstown City at home on Saturday night and have recruited some key personnel who will drive them towards a Top Five finish.

Former Gold medal winner Peter Preston is back to his brilliant best, and with names such as

Steve Berry, Danny Burt and Michael Williams in the Coasties ranks, they are sure to put Blacktown City to the test.

SQUADS

DEMONS: 1. John Crawley, 2. Paul Yates, 3. Damien Foxe, 4. Peter Sermanni, 5. Ben Willard, 6. Damon Langan, 7. Paul Dee, 8. Darren Iocca, 9. Kain Rastall, 10. Naoki Imaaya, 11. Jim Nikas, 12. Zlatko Donev, 13. Steve Riches, 14. David Reid, 15. Mark Racker, 16. Patrick Gatt, 17. Luciano Berbis, 18. Graeme O'Donnell, 19. Chad Lewis, 20. James Wilkinson, **Coach:** Brian Brown

COASTIES: 1. Matthew Collits, 2. Sean Matthews, 3. Marcus Steele, 4. Danny Burt, 5. Mitchell Daley, 6. Dane Hokin, 7. Peter Preston, 8. Adam Peatey, 9. Damien Smith, 10. Mick Williams, 11. Karl Freeman, 12. Peter Leary, 13. Peter Ritchie, 14. Andrew Clark, 15. Pat Bradley, 16. Steve Berry, 17. Steve Cutler, 18. Nathan Byrn, 20. Darren Moore, **Coach:** Dale Eggleton

BLACKTOWN CITY DEMONS ARE PROUDLY SPONSORED BY Perfection Milk, West Ham United Football Club, Cadbury-Schweppes, Wonderland Travel & Independent Gaming Systems



Sutherland Sharks

VS

Canterbury-Marrickville



KICK-OFF: 7pm & 5pm, Saturday 27 October 2001

VENUE: Seymour Shaw Park, The Boulevarde, Miranda

Sutherland came away from Penrith last week with their tails between their legs but will regroup this week ahead of the visit of Canterbury on Saturday night.

Sutherland still have three first-graders on the sidelines awaiting clearances with coach Billy McColl confident they will be through in time to start the game. Canterbury started their season well defeating Blacktown City 5-2 at home.

Captain George Bouhoutsos was a late withdrawal from the game with the flu but he is expected to be back and fit to start. Ex-Liberian international Andy Amegashie looked sharp

coming off the bench last week and he will push for a spot in the

Berries starting lineup this week.

SQUADS

SHARKS: 1. Dennes Olla, 2. Peter Feehan, 3. Alen Stajic, 4. David O'Han, 5. Ben Short, 6. Dean Heffernan, 7. Jamie Danaskos, 8. Monte Pfrengle, 9. Alex Pfrengle, 10. Steve Cklamovski, 11. Kris Karanasos, 12. Dean Spresian, 13. Ambrose Mancia, 14. Andy Watts, 15. Colin McAusland, **Coach:** Billy McColl

OLYMPIC: 1. George Bouhoutsos, 2. Greg Collins, 3. Christian Ortiz, 4. John Manolopoulos, 5. Mark D'Alessandro, 6. Andy Amegashie, 7. Con Paradisis, 8. Yane Talceviski, 9. Mark Beldham, 10. Hussein Jomaa, 11. Aheleas Kotsopoulos, 12. John Pillemer, 13. Terry Murphy, 15. Steve Biviano, 16. Peter Biviano, 17. Marcelo Guerrero, 18. Ali Salim, 20. Tristan Tulloch, **Coach:** John Xipolitis

SUTHERLAND SHARKS ARE PROUD TO BE SPONSORED BY Pipe King, Sydney Airport, Australian Plastic Profiles, Bezzina



Leichhardt Tigers

VS

Penrith Panthers



KICK-OFF: 5pm & 3pm, Sunday 28 October 2001

VENUE: Lambert Park, Marion St, Leichhardt

Despite the Leichhardt dressing room looking something akin to a hospital ward, the Tigers did a job on Fairfield last week, winning 3-0 at Nineveh Field.

Joe Bruni and former Panther Ryan Jones will have to prove their fitness at training this week after recovering from injuries while midfielder Danny Townsend looks like being out for another week or two.

Steve Karavatakis got off to a good start in his quest for yet another Golden Boot with a brace and he is the key man for the Tigers again this weekend.

Penrith rolled Sutherland last week at home proving they will be no easy beats in this season's competition. Luke Boyd collected a brace and with Rod Hutchinson also finding the target, the Panthers have got a side capable of winning some games.

Luke O'Connell, the older brother

of Tim, has returned after a couple of seasons away from the game and is

one to watch, as is veteran striker Osvaldo El Ali who is always a threat.

SQUADS

TIGERS: 1. Andrew Crews, 2. Kelvin Foster, 3. Joe Moric, 4. Ross Kethel, 5. Steven Livingstone, 6. Michael Galluzzo, 7. Joe Bruni, 8. James Stubbs-Mills, 9. Allan Picken, 10. Steve Karavatakis, 11. Sam La Rocca, 12. Jeremy Brown, 13. Andrew Falas, 14. Zoki Adioski, 15. Ryan Jones, 16. Anthony Tesoro, 17. Jason Lal, 18. Harry James, 19. Danny Townsend, 20. John Paul Boutros, **Coach:** Les DeCelis

PANTHERS: 1. Chad Taylor, 2. Jon Hawkins, 4. Glenn Meilak, 5. Ben Wright, 6. Daniel Wells, 7. Dave Gardiner, 8. Paul Marosevic, 9. Rod Hutchinson, 10. Osvaldo El Ali, 11. Luke O'Connell, 12. Christian Lima, 13. Jason Sciberras, 15. Wayne Berrigan, 17. Shane Hammond, 18. Gus Orcajo, 20. Tim O'Connell, 21. Ryan Noble, 26. Luke Boyd, 24. Kurt Van Arkkel, **Coach:** Tony Rassmussen

LEICHHARDT TIGERS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY Continental Tyres and Western Suburbs Leagues Club



NSW Premier League



FROM THE SIDELINES *with Greg Stock and Paul Goodwin*

Bankstown City has made headlines this week securing the services of striker Colin Luff from Bonnyrigg.

The former Golden Boot winner was unable to agree terms with his former club and once news of his availability spread, the Lions were quick to pounce and beat off a number of other clubs to secure his signature.

joins the likes of Hussein Jomaa and George Bouhoutsos as the club's major recruits. Last season's crowd favourite, Andy Amegashie has also resumed training after spending the off-season in Wollongong.

In other club news, the Berries administration is currently working extra hard to finalise a deal with a new major sponsor. The as yet

the winter.

Other promotions involving their youth league teams will also occur during the season designed to get the club's young talent involved in following the fortunes of their senior side.

□□□□

Sutherland coach Billy McColl is predicting big things from a playing squad he literally describes as a bunch of "no names".

McColl worked tirelessly through the off-season with a small group of players designed to give the team a 'leg up' for the forthcoming season and a number of his 'students' have graduated to the first-team.

With experienced defender Alen Stajic given the captain's armband, there is an air of 'quiet confidence' in the Sharks camp. "Our aim is to finish Top Five," said McColl, "and that aim is not unrealistic."

□□□□

After protracted negotiations with South Australian club Birkalla, Blacktown City are pleased to announce they have finally completed the transfer of former Gold Medal winner Jim Nikas.

According to Football Director Don O'Regan, the deal was finally done last week. Coach Brian Brown was delighted with the

news, describing the signing as a "major boost" to his side's chance for yet another premiership. In other club news, interest in former Marconi defender Mike Smith continues. Smith has been training with the Demons but negotiations are still at an early stage.

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The free agent signings are set to continue into the first few weeks of the Premier League season with St George looming to bolster their squad.

Negotiations with former Leichhardt defender Fabio Macolino continue while an announcement is also expected soon in regards to a new striker. With moves afoot for a new development at St George Stadium, the club is hard at work and an announcement is expected soon.

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Penrith Panthers' mid-field general, Osvaldo El Ali is not too popular with his younger team mates out at Andrews Road Field right now.

Not for anything he has done on the field, we hasten to add, but for the fact that were it not for him the average age of the Premier League first-grade side would probably be below 20.

With the veteran Ossie



Blacktown City Football Director, Don O'Regan.

in the side it rockets to 22.5!

□□□□

Leichhardt Tigers fans will appreciate the hard work that has taken place during the winter at the famous old Lambert Park ground.

The grass embankments at both ends have been spruced up and the old place has been given another lick of paint to greet the new season.

The damaged grandstand has not been touched as it and the rest of the stadium is to be redeveloped over the coming year or so, with a brand new, modern stadium due for completion, at least partially, in time for next season.

The focal point will be on the Marion Street side of the ground, with up-market seating and hospitality areas

combined with corporate facilities complemented by the revamped area on the far side which will be given over to the needs of junior footballers for team meetings, video sessions etc.

The majestic new building will include a players' lounge, an auditorium for functions and meetings, new dressing rooms, an administration and office section, a gymnasium, a new canteen and seven commercial shops facing Marion Street.

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Up at Plum Park, the Central Coast Coasties have been augmenting their squad with the re-inclusion of strong defender Marcus Steele who had been an injury concern during the winter.

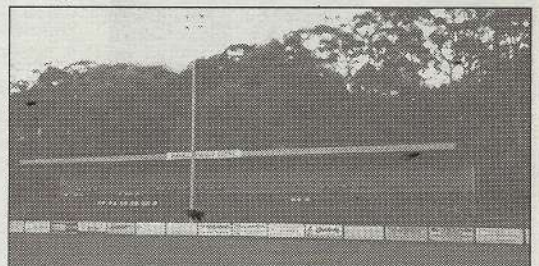
Coasties' product Andrew Clark, most recently seen in the colours of Parramatta Power and Canberra Cosmos, has been appointed first-grade captain. Clark starred in the side's meteoric rise through the lower divi-

sions before venturing to Asia in a very successful stint over there, before linking with the Cosmos and making his NSL debut in the nation's capital.

In a novel touch both NSW representative goalkeeper, Darren Moore and former Gold Medal winning striker, Peter Preston, have been named as his vice-captains. Last years Under-19 Player of the Year winner Marc Falzon has again been given the captain's job of that team.

In addition to Marcus Steele, the club has retained, on amateur terms, youngster Cal Roper, Steve 'Dame Nellie' Cutler, Ryan McKendrick, Daniel Surridge, Aaron Binskin and burly striker Nathan Byrn.

The idea is to give these players games in the Under 19's as over-age players, to see how they go, with the possibility of signing them on contract terms later.



Central Coast Coasties home ground, Plum Park.

"We are delighted to have Colin on our roster," said Lions President George Jackson.

"He is the perfect addition to our squad and will partner Harry Karl up-front in a twin-pronged forward line."

A former NSL player with Wollongong City and Sydney United, Luff resumed his playing career in the winter season, with Picton in the Illawarra league after recuperating from a serious leg injury.

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Canterbury-Marrickville has finalised their roster for season 2001/2 with the inclusion of former Manly-Warringah striker Mark Beldham. The pacy forward put pen to paper on a two-year deal just prior to the game against Blacktown and

unnamed multinational company will join the likes of Olympic Airways and Meraklis Tailors, with an announcement expected soon.

□□□□

Fairfield Bulls also added a new face to their team just prior to round one with goalkeeper Steve Tolios joining the club.

A former NSL player with Sydney United, Tolios will battle for the number one shirt with Frank Mikuletic. In an effort designed to boost the profile of the club, all financial members of the Nineveh Club will be allowed free entry to the club's home games and the Bulls committee is confident this will boost attendance figures which blossomed during



Fairfield Bulls goalkeeper Frank Mikuletic.

NEW SOUTH WALES PREMIER LEAGUE

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Arvind Hickman

CO-ORDINATOR: Binesh Mudaliar

WRITERS: Greg Stock, Paul Goodwin, Claire Killeen, Lezette Isaac

PHOTOGRAPHY: Carlos Furtado

★ All information is courtesy of the New South Wales Soccer Federation.

NSWSF

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ST. GEORGE



St George Saints

VS

Fairfield Bulls



Kick-off: 8pm & 6pm, Friday 26 October 2001
Venue: St George Stadium, 88 Bestic St, Rockdale

St. George open round two on Friday night when they host Fairfield Bulls at St. George Stadium.

New coach Paul Degney is settling into his role as head coach and will be looking for his side to produce the goods and get off to a good start. Fairfield started their season in disappointing fashion, unable to score a goal against Leichhardt Tigers last weekend at home.

They travel to St. George Stadium, normally a happy hunting ground for their twin strike force of Mathew Borg and Marc Hoenselaars, with new coach Craig Sharpley looking for his first win.

Ex-Canberra Cosmos midfielder Andy Ravello has joined the Bulls and he made a strong impression off the bench last Saturday night. Along with Ray Younis, he will stake a claim for inclusion in this week's starting side.

SQUADS

SAINTS: 1. Stacy Alogdellis, 2. Mark Bariamis, 3. Nick Boliantitis, 4. Angelo Petratos, 5. Max Sevaes, 6. Michael Kladis, 7. George Maglis, 8. Joshua Rufo, 9. Achilleas Markopoulos, 10. Emmanuel Papageorgiou, 11. John Fotiadis, 12. Zia Younan, 13. Brad Campbell, 14. Steven Papadopoulos, 15. Nick Mantic, 16. Simon Verrinder.
Coaches: Paul Degney & Greg Kokoviadis

BULLS: 1. Frank Mikuletic, 2. Mathew Dihm, 3. Jason Connolly, 4. Paul Bourke, 6. Paul Richardson, 7. Ray Younis, 8. Leo Carle, 9. Marc Hoenselaars, 10. Mathew Borg, 11. Stewart Van Bentum, 12. Richard Harrison, 13. Pat Darvill, 14. Tom Maric, 15. Andy Ravello, 20. Steve Tolios.
Coach: Craig Sharpley.

ST GEORGE SAINTS ARE PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
Union Financial Services Corporation



NSW Premier League



Bonnyrigg WE Belconnen BD

3
2

By Paul Goodwin

At the Serbian Centre Bonnyrigg made hard work of beating Belconnen Blue Devils who had led from a 4th minute far post header by Paul Gagetti after a corner on the right by Shane Lyons.



Chris Bradley of Bonnyrigg.

It took until the 58th minute for Robbie Gomez to catch out Tony Giannasca with a lob from 30 yards, which nestled in the top left corner of the net, but in going to the lead four minutes later, from a scrambling style of header by Jim Aschner, the home side looked like pressing home their advantage further immediately.

Instead, Belconnen hit back with a brilliant acute-angled finish by substitute Daniel Camara to a low cross from the right by Elia Salloum, after Steve Lazzari had failed to connect in the goal-mouth initially.

The visitors were missing key defender Toplica Popovich, while Bonnyrigg were without the services of their regular 'keeper Fernando Greco and attacking force Michael Hawrysiuk.

Bonnyrigg continued to play their natural attacking game for the last ten minutes and in the 89th the winner eventually arrived through another Aschner header this time from a cross on the left by John Kyriazopoulos.

Bonnyrigg should really have wrapped it up much sooner as they squandered a lot of chances in each half, Gomez and Chris Bradley missing the target and the latter also hitting the post in the second-half.

Belconnen turned over possession too often to get any real grip on the game as Dave Harding and Bradley controlled the middle of the park for Bonnyrigg who looked impressive as ever going forward but continue to cause concern at the back.

BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES: T Allen, S Utjesenovic, V Tomasevic, J Kyriazopoulos, D Huseyin, D Harding, C Bradley, J Mancino, J Ghiso, R Gomez (B Dragas 90), J Aschner.

BELCONNEN BLUE DEVILS: T Giannasca, M Cachia, E Zwangobani, N Purdue, S Lyons, S Kemp, M Katz (O Zamora 77), P Gagetti, E Salloum (J Mauro 86), D Macor (D Camara 70), S Lazzari.



Canterbury-M'ville 5 Blacktown City 2

By Greg Stock

Canterbury stalwart John Xipolitas celebrated his return to the coaching ranks in grand style, watching his beloved Berries side record a 5-2 win in the season opener at Henson Park.



Greg Collins of Canterbury-Marrickville.

In front of a vocal home crowd the home side capitalised on the send-off of Blacktown defender Paul Yates in the 4th minute to exert their numerical advantage and run away with the game in the second-half.

Yates was given his marching orders by referee Craig Pearce after a clumsy challenge on Berries forward Aheleas Kotsopoulos. Midfielder Con Paradisis was successful with the resulting penalty, and that was as close as Blacktown would get all evening. In the second-half, the speedy Canterbury forward line took its toll, beating their opponents three times on the break for three goals.

The first fell to Aheleas Kotsopoulos in the 54th minute who beat advancing goalkeeper John Crawley with a deft touch, Hussein Jomaa nailed a left foot pile driver in the 61st minute while Mark Beldham turned in an Andy Amegashie effort four minutes from time.

Amegashie got himself on the scoresheet, capitalising on a Demons defensive error in the dying stages of the match.

At the other end, Blacktown replied twice with Darren Iocca turning in a Paul Dee corner in the 74th minute and Steve Riches converting an 88th minute penalty, but these two efforts were a little too late to give the Demons any real chance in a game they never looked likely to win.

CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE: Tristan Tulloch, Greg Collins, Christian Ortiz, John Manolopoulos, Mark D'Alessandro, Con Paradisis, Mark Beldham, Hussein Jomaa (Andy Amegashie 63), John Pillemer, Steve Biviano (Peter Biviano 83), Aheleas Kotsopoulos (Ali Salim 75).

BLACKTOWN CITY: John Crawley, Paul Yates, Damien Foxe, Ben Willard, Damon Langan (Zlatko Donev 63), Paul Dee (Peter Sermanni 80), Darren Iocca, Kain Rastall, Naoki Imaya, Jimmy Nikas (Steve Riches 63), David Reid.



Central Coast Bankstown City

2
2

By Ray Sandell

The Coasties and Bankstown turned on a fast, attacking, entertaining game despite the disgraceful state of the Plum Park pitch. Numerous potholes and sand patches failed to stop either team giving the spectators their moneys worth.

Bankstown started by far the better and showed the benefit of coming off a recently completed Super League season whilst the Coasties were slow to settle which was not surprising as this was the first time the team had played as a unit.

Early pressure from the Lions resulted in new signing Harry Karl picking up a loose ball in the centre of the penalty area and sliding a shot past Moore which just caught the inside of the left-hand post and gave Bankstown the lead.

Hokin was doing a mountain of work in defence and was being ably assisted by Danny Burt who was showing his NSL experience.

For Bankstown Karl and Colin Luff were really putting the pressure on the Coasties defence.

Both had opportunities to add to the score but bad bounces in the barren penalty area caused shots to go wide.

Coasties started to settle and were beginning to show a bit of teamwork and Preston in particular was showing skills of old and was making dangerous penetrations into the Lions penalty area. He also suffered from the whims of the pitch and fired a couple of shots over the bar.

Hokin and Sean Matthews were starting to make runs down both wings and Zlatko Josevski in the Lions goal was being called on to make many more saves.

Five minutes before half-time Preston made a great diagonal run from wide out on the left, across the Bankstown penalty area and with Josevski advancing to cut down the angle slid the ball inside the far post to give the Coasties the equaliser.

The second-half again started at a fast rate and



Dane Hokin of the Coasties.

after eight minutes Mammoliti saw that Moore had come out of his goal and coolly lobbed the Coasties keeper to again give Bankstown the lead.

Just when it looked that the Lions were going to take a grip on the match the Coasties started to gradually get into their full stride and the new signings were starting to show their value. Pat Bradley was coming into the game in midfield and was putting long balls through to his strikers.

Steve Berry and Damien Smith, who both had quiet first halves, were also beginning to fire. Coasties continued the pressure and a ball from Mick Williams found Smith in the penalty area and he neatly lobbed Josevski for the Coasties to again equalise.

CENTRAL COAST COASTIES: Moore, Burt, Matthews, Hokin, Berry, Clark, Ritchie, Preston, Williams, Smith (Freeman), Bradley (Peatey). SUBS NOT USED: Daley, Collits.

BANKSTOWN CITY LIONS: Josevski, Yildiz, R. Luksic, Raeburn, Kanaan, Wearne (Nouh), G. Issa, Mammoliti, MacDonald, Luff, Karl (Troski).



NSW Premier League



Fairfield Bulls 0 Leichhardt Tigers 3

By Paul Goodwin

Sharpened by a winter season scoring goals for Dulwich Hill, in the NSW Super League, Leichhardt Tigers' sharp-shooter Steve Karavatakis picked up where he left off with a fine brace of rare headed goals to spearhead his NSW Premier League side to a 3-0 win at Fairfield this evening.



Steve Karavatakis of Leichhardt.

Fairfield included two of the players they had loaned out to Leichhardt last summer, Matt Borg and Marc Hoenselaars, but the pair could find no way past their former team mates.

Leichhardt keeper Andrew Crews pulled off a couple of super saves in the opening stanza to keep the visitors in the game when they had looked like caving in to pressure and the tide turned as soon as the Bulls had conceded the first goal.

After withstanding strong pressure for almost half-an-hour Leichhardt twice caught the Bulls on the break, Karavatakis getting on the end of a smart cross from the right by Zoki Adioski in the 28th with a diving header and then in the 43rd a nice interchange of passes saw Sam La Rocca lay on a pass for Allan Picken to drive home the second from close range.

Karavatakis completed the scoring in the 88th with a near replica header, simpler this time perhaps, from a cross on the right by Kiwi newcomer Jeremy Brown.

It was a good result for Leichhardt who had been hard hit by injuries in the lead-up to the game and were expected to struggle, but a debut off the bench for former Manly-Warringah defender Kelvin Foster, signed just days before the game, augers well for a sounder defence this term.

FAIRFIELD BULLS: F Mikuletic, S Van Bantum (C Sharpley), M Dihm, T Maric, J Connolly, R Harrison, P Bourke (I Arrarte), L Carle, P Richardson, M Borg (A Ravanello), M Hoenselaars.

LEICHHARDT TIGERS: A Crews, J Moric, S Livingstone (K Foster), M Galluzzo, Z Adioski, J-P Boutros, J Stubbs-Mills, S La Rocca, J Brown, A Picken, S Karavatakis (H James).



Penrith Panthers 3 Sutherland Sharks 1

By Lezette Isaac

The Penrith Panthers kick-started its 2001-02 Premier League season by defeating the Sutherland Sharks 3-1 on Saturday night at Andrews Road Field.

A double by Luke Boyd guided the Panthers' to first round points for the season.



Panthers boss, Alan Perkins: "Our players play for the love of the game and WANT to win."

After losing their captain to retirement, almost a week ago the young Panthers were keen to show their youthful skill and enthusiasm.

The Panthers hit their straps late in the first-half, and clearly were the better side in the second.

A total of nine yellow cards were issued in what turned out to be a busy night for referee Vic Gauci.

The Sharks looked more dominant early in the first-half but failed to take advantage of their opportunities.

Panther's goalkeeper Chad Taylor produced a brilliant save, in the middle of the half, to keep out a certain Sharks goal.

Both teams settled down late in the half, but was the Panthers who broke the deadlock in the 36th minute when Luke Boyd slotted home a header to give his team a 1-0 lead. The Sharks responded quickly with some magic of their own when Monte Pfrengle equalised with only seconds remaining in the first-half.

Shortly after the break Luke Boyd scored his second goal for the night, giving the Panthers a 2-1 lead.

The fragile Sharks defence was exposed once again, when Rod Hutchinson sealed the game in the 85th minute with a long-range goal to round off a comfortable 3-1 first win for the season.

SUTHERLAND SHARKS: Dennes Olla, Peter Feehan, Alen Stajic, Ben Short, Dean Heffernan, Jamie Danaskos, Monte Pfrengle, Alexander Pfrengle, Stephen Cklamovski, Kris Karanasos, Andrew Watts.

PENRITH PANTHERS: Chad Taylor, Jon Hawkins, Daniel Wells, David Gardiner, Paul Marosevic, Rod Hutchison, Osvaldo El Ali, Shane Hammond, Tim O'Connell, Luke Boyd, Jason Sciberras.



Parramatta Eagles 3 St George Saints 0

By Claire Killeen

The highflying Parramatta Melita Eagles have cruised to victory over the St George Saints at Melita Stadium last Sunday to close round one.

The domination shown by the Eagles was evident in the opening minutes, the Parramatta side attacking early and staying within the Saints half.

Anthony Mondello opened the scoring for Parramatta in the 12th minute. Some fancy foot-work saw him fake a pass inside the box before netting the ball in the left hand corner.

Strong performances from Eagle's Geoffrey Dwyer ensured that the Saints were kept scoreless, the Eagles in control at the break.

During the second half a lapse in the Eagle's defence left the goalmouth wide open. The Saints however, could only find the side netting and this was the only time they troubled goalkeeper Jason Holmes.

A brilliant individual goal from Daniel Kukucka

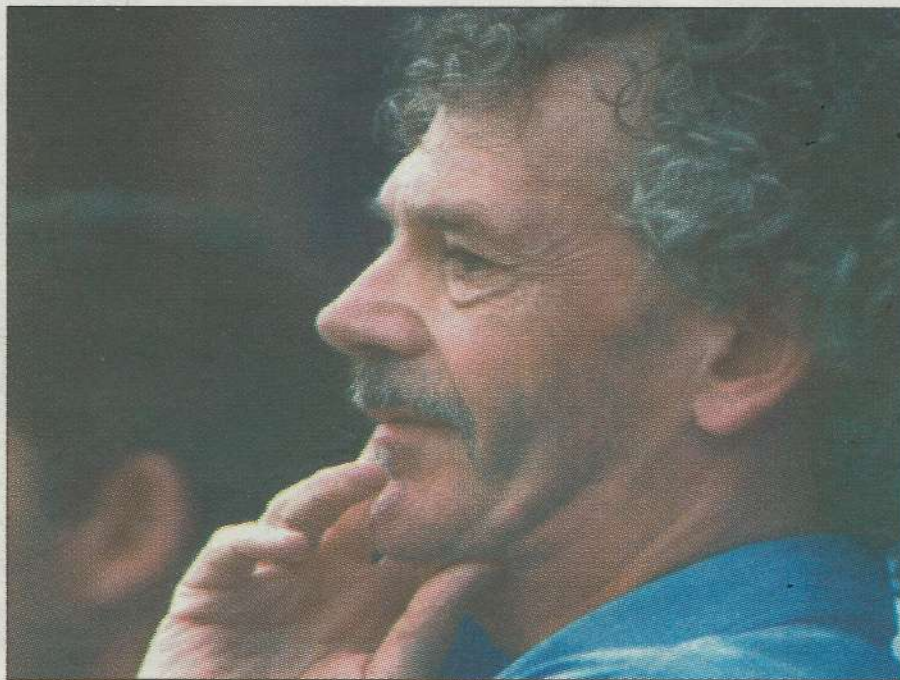
saw the lead extended to 2-0 in the 56th minute. Kukucka took on two Saints players, beat them and scored in the left hand corner.

PARRAMATTA EAGLES: Jason Holmes (c), Geoffrey Dwyer, Mark Reveley, Mirko Jurilj, Mauricio Islas, Daniel Kukucka, Anthony Mondello, Anthony Mittiga, Glenn Sprod, Ben Delicata, Daniel Cummins. Reserves: Malcolm Meilak, Jim Bakis, Ben Panecasio, Joel Morgan. Coach: Tam Finlayson.

ST GEORGE SAINTS: Stacy Alogdellis, Mark Bariamis, Nick Boliantitis, Angelo Petratos, Max Sevaes, Michael Kladis, George Maglis, Joshua Rufo, Achilleas Markopoulous, Emmanuel Papageorgiou, John Fotiadis. Reserves: Brad Campbell, Steven Papadopoulos, Nick Mantic. Coaches: Paul Degney and Greg Kokoviadis.

The double for Mondello came in the 86th minute. A fine cross from Anthony Mittiga on the left side of the field found the Eagles striker in the box, the number '9' placing it in the left hand corner of the goal.

For the losing side Joshua Rufo had an outstanding game. He was a problem for the Eagles continually probing their defence and finding gaps all over the park.



Parramatta Eagles coach Tam Finlayson.



NSW Premier League



CLUB FOCUS

Tigers to compete at Tourneo 'di Viareggio'



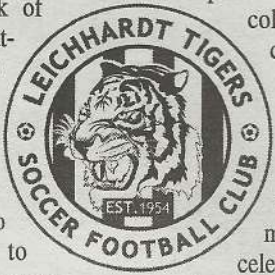
Steve Karavatakis: Spear heading the Leichhardt Tiger's attack, is a fine example to the touring U/19 team.

By Stuart Veitch

The Leichhardt Tigers are unquestionably the dominant youth team in the NSW Premier League, winning the premiership and championship double for two successive seasons.

As if the task of completing a hat-trick of doubles was not challenge enough, Tigers coach John Romeo is also preparing to lead his squad to Italy in January to compete in the 54th annual edition of the prestigious invitation-only Tourneo di Viareggio (Viareggio tournament).

The competition has built itself a reputation over the past half-a-century as a virtual



world club championship for under-20 youth teams.

Games are played in and around the picturesque resort town of Viareggio, on the Ligurian coast near Pisa in Italy's northwest.

Also known as the Coppa Carnevale, the World Cup format competition is a centerpiece of Viareggio's colourful Carnevale celebrations each winter's end.

The Carnevale, with its spectacular processions, traditional face-masks, and frenetic celebrations ahead of the austerity of Lent, draws hundreds of thousands of visitors, and the keen interest of the Italian football world.

The Tigers will compete as one of forty clubs from Italy and beyond, with most Serie A clubs expected to field teams,

including some of the giants of world football such as Juventus, Inter, AC Milan, Lazio, Roma and Fiorentina.

The player list from past tournaments has boasted such household names as Gabriel Batistuta, Franco Baresi and Alessandro Del Piero giving a fair indication of the yardstick against which the Tigers will be tested.

How ever, John Romeo is not daunted by the challenge ahead.

"There is a real buzz in the camp this year" he explains.

"The players are jumping out of their skins to get into it; they want to build on their achievements of the past two years and test themselves on the world stage."

"While there is no doubt that the competition will be the toughest we have ever faced, I have every confidence in the ability of my boys to be very competitive. We are certainly one of the elite youth teams in this country and I think we will

be very good ambassadors for Leichhardt Tigers and Australia."

Possibly Romeo's greatest challenge will be ensuring that his charges remain focused on the domestic competition, although Romeo comments "I don't think that will be a problem."

"We have a big squad this year and I think they will all be busting to get into my starting eleven from the outset". While keeping most of

the all-conquering squad from the last two seasons, Romeo has added goalkeepers Murray Nelson and Phil Zabaks, as well as attackers Nathan Foti, Ashley Short and Rockie Restuccia, midfielders Luke Tyburski and Matthew Raciti, and defender Pascal Julliard.

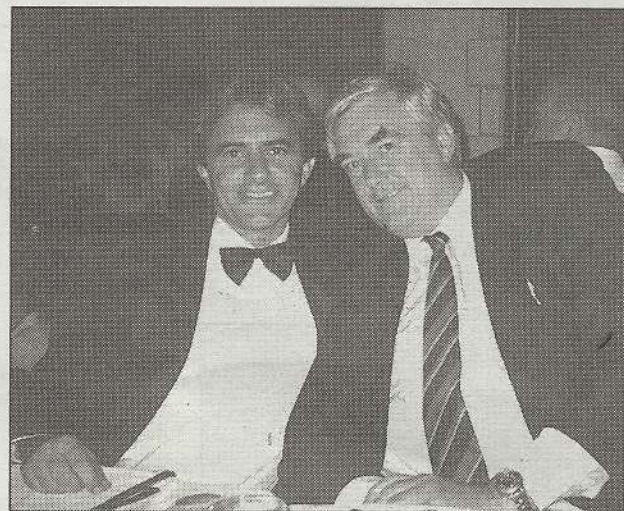
Romeo sees the Viareggio tour shaping up to be an annual event, and a cornerstone of his aim to build an elite youth academy at Lambert Park.

"After our success of the

past two seasons, it is every club's dream to display that success internationally" Romeo says.

"At Leichhardt the dream

has become reality, as we are committed to showcasing our entire youth squad in Europe every year".



Leichhardt President Tony Raciti (left) alongside NSW Soccer Federation President, Peter Gray (right).

Tigers U/19 Squad

Nelson, Zabaks, Tyburski, Cameron, Cunningham, Corte, Julliard, Foti, De Kelly, O'Riley, Restuccia, Quilty, Short, Raciti, Ciano, Talcevski, Zarrella, Coluccio, Nicolaou, Boutros, Polito. Coaches: John Romeo, Mark Brady, and Luke McGuire.



Leichhardt Tigers U/19 Grand Final winners in 2000/2001.



NSW Premier League



SCOREBOARD

ROUND 1

PREMIER LEAGUE FIRST GRADE

CANTERBURY-M'VILLE 5 (C Paradis 5m pen, A Kotsopoulos 54m, H Jomaa 61m, M Beldham 86m, A Amegashie 89m)	BLACKTOWN CITY 2 (D Iocca 74m, S Riches 88m pen)
FAIRFIELD BULLS 0	LEICHHARDT TIGERS 3 (S Karavatakis 28/88m, A Picken 43)
BONNYRIGG WE 3 (R Gomez 58m, J Aschner 62/89m)	BELCONNEN BLUE DEVILS ...2 (P Gaget 4m, D Camara 80m)
CENTRAL COAST 2 (P Preston 40m, D Smith 64m)	BANKSTOWN CITY LIONS ...2 (H Karl 16m, A Mammoliti 53m)
PENRITH PANTHERS 3 (L Boyd 36/50m, R Hutchinson 85m)	SUTHERLAND SHARKS 1 (M Pfrengle 44m)
PARRAMATTA EAGLES 3 (A Mondello 12/86m, D Kukucka 56m)	ST GEORGE SAINTS 0

UNDER 19

CANTERBURY M'VILLE 0	BLACKTOWN CITY 1
PENRITH PANTHERS 3	SUTHERLAND SHARKS 1
FAIRFIELD BULLS 0	LEICHHARDT TIGERS 3
BONNYRIGG WE 0	BELCONNEN BLUE DEVILS ...6
CENTRAL COAST 7	BANKSTOWN CITY LIONS ...0
PARRAMATTA EAGLES 0	ST GEORGE SAINTS 1

TABLES

FIRST GRADE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canterbury Marrickville	1	1	0	0	5	2	3
Leichhardt Tigers	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Parramatta Eagles	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Penrith Panthers	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Bonnyrigg WE	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Bankstown City Lions	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Central Coast Coasties	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Belconnen Blue Devils	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Sutherland Sharks	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Blacktown City Demons	1	0	0	1	2	5	0
St George Saints	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
Fairfield Bulls	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

UNDER 19

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Central Coast Coasties	1	1	0	0	7	0	3
Belconnen Blue Devils	1	1	0	0	6	0	3
Leichhardt Tigers	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Penrith Panthers	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Blacktown City Demons	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
St George Saints	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Parramatta Eagles	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Canterbury Marrickville	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Sutherland Sharks	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Fairfield Bulls	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
Bonnyrigg White Eagles	1	0	0	1	0	6	0
Bankstown City Lions	1	0	0	1	0	7	0

TOP SCORERS

2-	Jimmy Aschner	(Bonnyrigg White Eagles)
2-	Luke Boyd	(Penrith Panthers)
2-	Steve Karavatakis	(Leichhardt Tigers)
2-	Anthony Mondello	(Parramatta Eagles)

Premier League Action





NSW Premier League



THE COERVER WAY

"(Coerver) is based on skill drills which you perform so often they become second nature. Some of the tricks I picked up there have helped me no end in getting the better of defenders in the English Premier League each week."

Words by Harry Kewell (Leeds United & Australia), Sunday Telegraph 6/6/99:

marily at boys and girls aged 7-17, the system has also been adopted by the professional football fraternity as well.

For example, Aime Jacquet, the coach of the French National Team that was victorious on home soil in the 1998 World Cup, believes that Coerver Coaching contributed to the success of France during the late 1990s.

There are many ringing endorsements of Coerver Coaching from organisations and individuals such as FIFA, UEFA, Soccer Australia, Oceania Football Confederation, Liverpool FC, Manchester United FC, Franz Beckenbauer, Roberto Rivelino, Johan Cruyff and Alex Ferguson.

Coerver in Oceania

The New South Wales Soccer Federation is the official Oceania licensee of Coerver Coaching.

Other sub-licensees of Coerver in Oceania are:

- NZ Soccer-New Zealand
- Sportsgroup Soccer International-Western Australia
- Central Coast Soccer Association
- Glenn Fontana in Wollongong

Coerver Coaching offers a number of services and products to both players and coaches. These include:

1. **Coerver Camps:** Run in school holidays. The course includes an Adidas ball, tee-shirt and twelve hours of instruction.

2. **Coerver Club Skills Program:** Junior soccer clubs can request a Coerver Coaching Club Skills session to be an additional

session to their regular training.

3. **Coerver Elite Squads:** Outstanding players who are identified during a Coerver Camp are asked to trial for their own regional Elite Squads in Sydney, Bankstown, Central Coast, Blue Mountains, Wollongong, Newcastle, ACT or Port Macquarie.

4. **Coerver Residential Live-in Camps:** Aimed at advanced players aged 11-16. Application forms are ready for 2002. Call (02) 9629 1800 for bookings.

5. **Coerver Coaching Speed Program:** An eight-week speed program every Saturday (9-10.30am) at Valentine Sports Park starting 20 September till 8 December. Focus on sports Specific Speed related to Soccer. Cost is \$250.

For more information on Coerver please contact Paul Bentvelzen on (02) 9629 1800 or coerver@soccernsw.com.au or direct your browser towards www.coerveraustralia.com



A bicycle kick done the 'Coerver' way.

GOLSPORT

T H E N A M E

Soccer the game



PREMIER SUPPLIER TO SOCCER IN AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

National Youth League (North) Draws

Round 16

(W/E 27th January 2002)

FRI 25-01-02

NSWIS Vs Wollongong Wolves Youth, 6.30pm - Valentine Sports Park

SAT 26-01-02

Nth Spirit Youth Vs AIS, 4.00pm - Christie Park

SAT 26-01-02

Parramatta Power Youth Vs Newcastle United Youth, 5.00pm - Parramatta Stadium

SUN 27-01-02

Marconi Stallions Colts Vs Olympic Sharks Youth, 5.00pm - Marconi Stadium

SUN 27-01-02

ACTAS Vs Marconi Stallions Youth, 5.00pm - AIS Soccer Field

SUN 27-01-02

Sydney United Youth Vs Sydney United Colts, 4.00pm - Sydney United Sports Centre

BYE -

QAS

Round 17

(W/E 3rd February 2002)

FRI 01-02-02

Wollongong Wolves Youth Vs Newcastle United Youth, 5.00pm - WIN Stadium

FRI 01-02-02

NSWIS Vs ACTAS, 6.30pm - Valentine Sport. Park

SAT 02-02-02

AIS Vs Parramatta Power Youth, 7.00pm - AIS Soccer Field

SAT 02-02-02

Olympic Sharks Youth Vs Northern Spirit Youth, 5.00pm - Toyota Park

SAT 02-02-02

QAS Vs Marconi Stallions Colts, 4.45pm - Ballymore Stadium

SAT 02-02-02

Marconi Stallions Youth Vs Sydney United Youth, 4.30pm - Marconi Stadium

BYE

Sydney United Colts

Round 18

(W/E 10th February 2002)

FRI 08-02-02

Newcastle United Youth Vs AIS, 5.15pm - Marathon Stadium

FRI 08-02-02

Northern Spirit Youth Vs QAS, 5.00pm - North Sydney Oval

SAT 09-02-02

Parramatta Power Youth Vs Olympic Sharks Youth, 5.00pm - Parramatta Stadium

SUN 10-02-02

ACTAS Vs Wollongong Wolves Youth, 5.00pm - AIS Soccer Field

SUN 10-02-02

Marconi Stallions Colts Vs Sydney United Colts, 5.00pm - Marconi Stadium

SUN 10-02-02

Sydney United Youth Vs NSWIS, 4.00pm - Sydney United Sports Centre

BYE -

Marconi Stallions Youth

Round 19

(W/E 17th February 2002)

SAT 16-02-02

Wollongong Wolves Youth Vs AIS - 4.30pm WIN Stadium

SAT 16-02-02

Olympic Sharks Youth Vs Newcastle United Youth, 5.00pm - Toyota Park

SAT 16-02-02

QAS Vs Parramatta Power Youth, 4.45pm - Ballymore Stadium

SAT 16-02-02

Marconi Stallions Youth Vs Marconi Stallions Colts, 4.30pm - Marconi Stadium

SAT 16-02-02

Sydney United Colts Vs Northern Spirit Youth, 4.00pm - Sydney United Sports Centre

SUN 17-02-02

ACTAS Vs Sydney United Youth, 5.00pm - AIS Soccer Field

BYE -

NSWIS

Round 20

(W/E 24th February 2002)

FRI 22-02-02

Newcastle United Youth Vs QAS, 5.15pm - Marathon Stadium

SAT 23-02-02

Northern Spirit Youth Vs Marconi Stallions Youth, 4.00pm - Christie Park

SAT 23-02-02

AIS Vs Olympic Sharks Youth, 7.00pm - AIS Soccer Field

SAT 23-02-02

Parramatta Power Youth Vs Sydney Utd Colts, 5.00pm - Parramatta Stadium

SUN 24-02-02

Marconi Stallions Colts Vs NSWIS, 5.00pm - Marconi Stadium

SUN 24-02-02

Sydney United Youth Vs Wollongong Wolves Youth, 4.00pm - Sydney United Sports Centre

BYE

ACTAS

Round 21

(W/E 3rd March 2002)

FRI 01-03-02

Wollongong Wolves Youth Vs Olympic Sharks Youth, 5.00pm - WIN Stadium

FRI 01-03-02

Newcastle United Youth Vs Sydney United Colts, 5.15pm - Marathon Stadium

FRI 01-03-02

NSWIS Vs Northern Spirit Youth, 6.30pm - Valentine Sports Park

SAT 02-03-02

QAS Vs AIS, 4.45pm - Ballymore Stadium

SAT 02-03-02

Marconi Stallions Youth Vs Parramatta Power Youth, 4.30pm - Marconi Stadium

SUN 03-03-02

ACTAS Vs Marconi Stallions Colts, 5.00pm - AIS Soccer Field

BYE

Sydney United Youth

Round 22

(W/E 10th March 2002)

FRI 08-03-02

Newcastle United Youth Vs Marconi Stallions Youth, 5.15pm - Marathon Stadium

FRI 08-03-02

Parramatta Power Youth Vs NSWIS, 7.00pm - Valentine Sports Park

SAT 09-03-02

Northern Spirit Youth Vs ACTAS, 4.00pm - Christie Park

SAT 09-03-02

AIS Vs Sydney United Colts, 7.00pm - AIS Soccer Field

SAT 09-03-02

Olym. Sharks Yth Vs QAS, 5.00pm - Toyota Pk

SUN 10-03-02

Marconi Stallions Colts Vs Sydney United Youth, 5.00pm - Marconi Stadium

BYE

Wollongong Wolves Youth

Round 23

(W/E 9th December 2001)

FRI 15-03-02

Wollongong Wolves Youth Vs QAS, 5.00pm - WIN Stadium

TBA NSWIS Vs Newcastle Utd Youth, TBA - TBA

SAT 16-03-02

Marconi Stallions Youth Vs AIS, 4.30pm - Marconi Stadium

SAT 16-03-02

Sydney United Colts Vs Olympic Sharks Youth, 4.00pm - Sydney United Sports Centre

SUN 17-03-02

ACTAS Vs Parramatta Power Youth, 5.00pm - AIS Soccer Field

SUN 17-03-02

Sydney United Youth Vs Northern Spirit Youth, 6.00pm - Sydney United Sports Centre

BYE

Marconi Stallions Colts

Round 24

(W/E 16th December 2001)

FRI 22-03-02

Newcastle United Youth Vs ACTAS, 5.15pm - Marathon Stadium

TBA AIS Vs NSWIS, TBA - TBA

SAT 23-03-02

Parramatta Power Youth Vs Sydney United Youth, 5.00pm - Parramatta Stadium

SAT 23-03-02

Olympic Sharks Youth Vs Marconi Stallions Youth, 5.00pm - Toyota Park

SAT 23-03-02

QAS Vs Sydney United Colts, 4.45pm - Ballymore Stadium

SUN 24-03-02

Marconi Stallions Colts Vs Wollongong Wolves Youth, 5.00pm - Marconi Stadium

BYE

Northern Spirit Youth

Round 25

(W/E 31st March 2001)

THUR28-03-02

Wollongong Wolves Youth Vs Sydney United Colts, 5.00pm - WIN Stadium

TBA NSWIS Vs Olympic Sharks Youth, TBA - TBA

SAT 30-03-02

Marconi Stallions Youth Vs QAS, 4.30pm - Marconi Stadium

SUN 31-03-02

Marconi Stallions Colts Vs Northern Spirit Youth, 5.00pm - Marconi Stadium

SUN 31-03-02

ACTAS Vs AIS, 5.00pm - AIS Soccer Field

SUN 31-03-02

Sydney United Youth Vs Newcastle United Youth, 2.00pm - Sydney United Sports Centre

BYE

Parramatta Power Youth

Round 26

(W/E 7th April 2002)

SUN 07-04-02

Northern Spirit Youth Vs Wollongong Wolves Youth, 12.30 - Christie Park

SUN 07-04-02

AIS Vs Sydney United Youth, 12.30pm - AIS Soccer Field

SUN 07-04-02

Parramatta Power Youth Vs Marconi Stallions Colts, 12.30 - Parramatta Stadium

SUN 07-04-02

Olympic Sharks Youth Vs ACTAS, 12.30 - Toyota Park

SUN 07-04-02

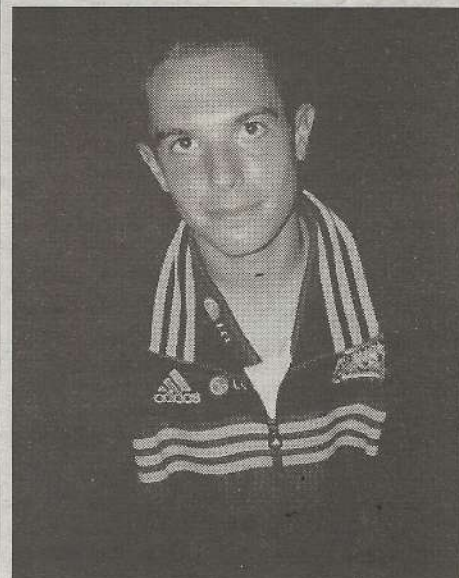
QAS Vs NSWIS, 12.30 - Ballymore Stadium

SUN 07-04-02

Sydney United Colts Vs Marconi Stallions Youth, 12.30 - Sydney United Sports Centre

BYE

Newcastle United Youth



Massimo Muroccca, NYL 2001 (Southern Division) Player of the Year.

DEAKIN'S NYL BID REJECTED

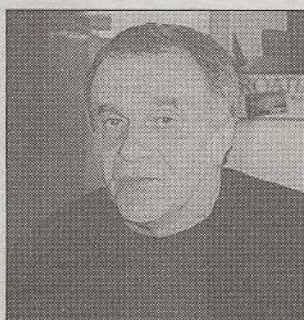
By Graham Cooke

Canberra Deakin's last-minute attempt to take over the place of failed Canberra Cosmos in the National Youth League Northern Division was rejected by member clubs last week.

Instead they voted to admit a Brisbane-based outfit called Toro. A counter proposal by Soccer

Australia, that a squad representing the ACT minor premiers join the troubled Southern Division of the competition was rejected, club officials estimating travel costs would require a budget double the size of the \$50,000 they had allocated.

Money spoke loudly in the eventual decision, with Toro reportedly agreeing to pay for visiting clubs to travel to Brisbane.



Vlado Horvat: NYL bid rejected.

The NYL Southern Division is reported to be in deep strife with only the two surviving National Soccer League clubs, South Melbourne and Melbourne Knights, and a handful of Victorian League outfits agreeing to run teams.

Persistent reports that the competition would be suspended have been denied however, and it is likely to kick off with seven or

eight teams.

The decision not to include Deakin ends any hope that a squad of some 18 young Canberra players who have been training through the last 12 weeks in the expectation of playing for the Cosmos, will get any reward for their efforts.

The majority could have switched to Deakin's colours with the minimum of fuss.

The club's director of football, Bernie Lustica, said time had been very short, but the transition could have been managed, especially as head coach Vlado Horvat specialises in developing young talent.

"Maybe if we had had a couple more weeks to lobby the NYL clubs there would have been a more favourable result," he said.

CULINA BACKS UNDER-PRESSURE KRNCCEVIC

By Bert van Bedaf

An extra-ordinary exchange took place during the post-match conference after South Melbourne had just lost 1-0 at home to Sydney United over the weekend.

The always-extravagant Branko Culina leapt to the defence of his South Melbourne colleague after Eddie Krncevic had been questioned about his position at South.

It's only been three matches, but significantly two home losses and a draw in New Zealand, and whether it's true or not the perception is the knives are already out for Krncevic.

When asked about any pressure, Krncevic said, "Pressure? We're in a job where you feel pressure. When you win, it's the players who win. When you lose, it's the coach who loses."

It was at about this point that Culina stepped in with a philosophical tirade against the Melbourne scribes who were giving Krncevic a bad time and should be supportive of him, according to the United coach.

"The guy's taken over a club that in the last few years had been at the top of the tree and got decimated (loss of nine players) and you're asking him why he's not winning," Culina said.

"Of course he's not winning. He's lost the heart and soul of his team.



South Melbourne captain, Paul Trimboli has been unable to steer the team to a convincing performance so far.

That's the same thing with Sydney United and other clubs. You can't expect miracles overnight.

"There a coach in Sydney, who's spent five million bucks over the last two years and his team's not winning

and the media over there for some reason doesn't ask him every week if he's going to get sacked or is 'your club going to get rid of you'.

"For some reason it is either some coaches we're having a go at or some media prefers to put unnecessary pressure on some coaches. Eddie and I have enough pressure without having to pick up a paper, fuelled by people in the media because after two games the team's not on the top of the table.

"Let's be realistic and say South Melbourne was a great side. They're going through a rebuilding phase. The club's happy with that," he said.

Then, Herald-Sun reporter Peter Desira interrupted and said, "Branko, if David Mitchell was in charge of this club, we'd be asking him the same questions."

"What did you say?," Culina asked enjoying the Mitchell

moment. "I didn't say that, did I?"

Culina then went on again to praise Krncevic, who sat quietly in his chair next to Culina, looking a little sheepish for all the love and affection being bestowed on him.

"Look, the guy's a good coach. He's been successful where ever he's been (Carlton and Marconi), all right, and after a couple of games people are trying to crucify him.

"There are many ways of skinning a cat, ask Sydney Olympic (Sharks). I got sacked for no results. The season had not even started. There are many other reasons why we lose our jobs and so forth. "Give the guy a chance. He's a good bloke. He's a good ambassador for soccer and he is a good damn coach. Look at his record," Culina said.

Krncevic coached now defunct Carlton to a losing grand final against South Melbourne in 1998. He missed out on the finals the following season and coached Marconi to finals places in the last two seasons before being sacked at the end of last NSL season.

Sacked at the Sharks, Culina has returned to Sydney United, which he coached to a losing grand final against Brisbane Strikers, then under player-coach Frank Farina, in 1997.

Despite the rhetoric, Krncevic is headed for difficult times. The foot injury of Vaughan Coveny is looking worse than first thought.

"It's like a truck has run over it,"

Krncevic said. "Vaughan might be out for the season."

South is already missing midfielder David Clarkson for the season after a knee reconstruction.

Krncevic said the club will need to go into the transfer market. South is negotiating with Belgian midfielder Stephane van der Heyden. The former international played for Beerschot and FC Brugge and is a free agent. He wants to come to Australia, because he likes the lifestyle for himself and his family. But the money he's asking seems a little beyond cash strapped South. The club is searching for a sponsor for the Belgian. Jason Petkovic replaced Chris Jones in goal after a rushed flight back from Lillestrom, Norway only hours earlier.

Shrugging of jetlag, Petkovic had a good game, "It was good to be back. Pity, we couldn't finish it off for a win," he said afterwards.

His return has put Chris Jones on the outer. "Petkovic is our number one keeper. He's the best 'keeper in Australia and he showed his class," Krncevic said.

And what about Jones? "If Chris finds a team, we won't stand in his way," Krncevic said about a likely transfer. South has a bye this week.



Eddie Krncevic: Unhappy with South's start to the season.

KNIGHTS WIN

Fresh from a 1-0 away victory over the Olympic Sharks, the Melbourne Knights are at home to the Brisbane Strikers on Saturday night.

Although goal keeper Martin John remained modest about his exploits, nobody doubted he was the hero of the win. "Most of my saves were routine in my book, except for one save when I had to get down low. I only just managed to get my finger tips to it and push it around the post. That was a reflex save," John said.

The Knights hope for a big turn-out on Saturday and their first home victory for the season against the second-placed Strikers.

SOCCER WOMAN BY JANENE MAR

AUSTRALIA TO HOST WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

See the Matildas in their quest to qualify for their third consecutive World Cup.

Australia is confirmed as host of the Oceania Women's World Cup Qualifying Tournament following the meeting of the Oceania Football Confederation Executive Committee on 13 October.

The all-important tournament is scheduled for 19-29 November 2002, at a venue yet to be decided. The competition format shall be confirmed once the entries are determined.

The winner of the event will represent Oceania at the 2003 FIFA Women's World Cup in China, 23 September - 18 October 2003.

Australia last hosted the Qualifiers in 1991 for the inaugural Women's World Cup later that year in China. Just three teams - Australia, close rivals New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea - battled it out at Club Marconi in Sydney for the ultimate trip to China. The outcome was heartbreaking for Australia, losing out on goal difference to the Kiwis.

In 1995, the same three teams converged on Papua New Guinea for the Qualifiers, and this time Australia emerged from the double round-robin format on goal difference ahead of New Zealand. Thankfully, the field for the 1998 Qualifiers doubled to six and a two-pool format with semis and a final was employed. American Samoa, Fiji, and Samoa were the first-time Qualifiers combatants.

OLYMPICS QUALIFIERS PROVIDE NEW HOPE

Previously, a berth in the Olympic Games women's football competition (in addition to the host) was the prize for the top placing countries from the World Cup. But that is all to change. For Athens 2004, teams will qualify via their Confederation's Olympic qualification tournament.

This system provides new hope to many fringe countries around the world of being a part of Olympic glory. Australia of course was fortunate to be host of last year's Olympics, having otherwise failed to qualify via a top-seven placing at the 1999 World Cup. We now



Amy Taylor, Matildas' star.

have the added security of a second separate tournament from which to gain an Olympic berth.

Not that anything is assured. Of course, even more buoyed by the prospect would be New Zealand who haven't played in the World Cup since 1991. Should they fail again for 2003, the Olympic qualifiers gives them another shot at the Aussies where anything can happen, as recently proved by the giantkilling men's basketballers.

Failing to qualify for the World Cup is therefore no longer a double killer for World Cup as well as the Olympics - the absolute end of the road for those who just miss out. It also means not such a huge four year gap between the major world targets on the calendar for those aspiring nations, and a greater number of important international matches for big and small nations alike.

The winners under this new system are the good international countries just outside the top half-dozen such as Australia, Canada, Denmark, and Japan. Also those borderline teams not yet quite good enough to get to the World Cup, for instance New Zealand, and numerous European nations.

What this also means is that the Olympics will no longer necessarily be the true crème de la crème of women's world football as Atlanta and Sydney were. Assuring a qualifier from each Confederation, plus the host, may imbalance that level of class a little, although, over the past five years, the spread of quality teams has touched upon each Confederation with the emergence of Brazil, Nigeria, and Australia.

The Oceania Executive last week made tentative approvals of the 2003 tournament program, and have proposed the dates of 11-21

November 2003 for the Oceania Women's Olympic Qualifying Tournament at a single venue yet to be decided. The dates are only three weeks after the World Cup, which no doubt has both its advantages and disadvantages.

It is considered around eight to ten countries will enter, and these shall be drawn in two pools for a round-robin competition, with crossover semifinals and a final. The winner represents Oceania at the 2004 Olympic Games, 11-28 August 2004.

Kickoff to the sixth national league season is fast approaching - Canberra Eclipse, NSW Sapphires, Northern NSW Pride, defending champs Queensland Sting, Adelaide Sensation, and Victoria Vision are in the midst of final preparations for the Saturday 3 November start.

This season sees a welcome return to a ten-round competition, and for the first time a true home and away format will be utilised.

As well as the traditional State rivalry in the battle for the coveted WNSL crown, there will be just as much focus on individuals staking their claim for national squads selection. The younger players have their minds set on the Young Matildas and competing in the inaugural U19 World Championship next year. Their more immediate goal is the training camp in January leading into the April/May Qualifiers.

Matildas aspirants are out to impress the new National Coach, currently in the process of being appointed. Their first assignment is the Australia Cup in January, during the WNSL break.

National Youth Coach Mike Mulvey emphasised the importance of the national league upon ongoing selections at the time of announcing a 22-member Young Matildas Squad last month, stating, "Between now and the January camp, there is the WNSL where players have the opportunity to play themselves in or play themselves out of the squad."

WORLD YOUTH QUALIFIERS CONFIRMED

The Oceania Football Confederation also confirmed the details for the crucial Oceania U19 Women's Qualifying Tournament at its Executive meeting. Nuku'alofa in Tonga will play host to the event from 23 April to 3 May 2002.

Once entries are confirmed, the competition format will be determined. The winner will represent Oceania at the inaugural FIFA U19 Women's World Championship in Canada, 17 August to 2 September 2002.

NYL Results/Ladder

Melbourne Knights Academy (Sulemani 9', Pelikan 18' 40', Matkovic 26', own goal 50')	6	Preston Lions	0
South Melbourne Institute (own goal 4', Pace 6', Tsiras 15' 40', 59' 69', Murdoch 49', Simsek 88')	8	Bulleen Zebras (Petta 54', Gasparis 80')	2

South Melbourne Eagles Academy v Green Gully

DEFERRED MATCH

Albury Wodonga Vs Melbourne Knights Youth - (TBA)

SOUTHERN DIVISION/LADDER RD 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Melbourne Institute	1	1	0	0	8	2	3
Melbourne Knights Academy	1	1	0	0	6	0	3
Bulleen Zebras	1	0	0	1	2	8	0
Preston Lions	1	0	0	1	0	6	0

Albury Wodonga
Green Gully
Melbourne Knights Youth
South Melbourne Eagles Academy

NORTHERN DIVISION RD 3 RESULTS

Wollongong Wolves Youth (Aliffi 70', Sribnoski 75')	2	NSWIS (Timpano 37')	1
Newcastle United Youth	0	Parramatta Power Youth (Groves 67', Bridge 79')	2
AIS (Danze 78', Brosque 90')	2	Northern Spirit Youth (Griffiths 85')	1
Marconi Stallions Youth	0	ACTAS (Cattanach 29')	1
Olympic Sharks Youth (Moustakas 9', Collina 57')	2	Marconi Stallions Colts (Mitic 73')	1
Sydney United Colts (Cindric 65')	0	Sydney United Youth	1
QAS (Hilton 7' 37', DiSipio 55', Drewek 57', Morley 68')	5	Brisbane Toro	0

NORTHERN DIVISION/LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wollongong Wolves Youth	3	3	0	0	7	3	9
Parramatta Power Youth	3	2	0	1	9	3	6
QAS	3	0	0	6	0	6	6
AIS	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Newcastle United Youth	3	2	0	1	3	3	6
Olympic Sharks Youth	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Sydney United Youth	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
ACTAS	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Sydney United Colts	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Marconi Stallions Youth	3	1	0	2	2	3	3
NSWIS	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Marconi Stallions Colts	3	0	0	3	2	7	0
Brisbane Toro	1	0	0	1	0	5	0
Northern Spirit Youth	3	0	0	3	1	8	0

IVANOVIC, SCARDIGNO JOIN FORCES

By Allan Crisp

Newly-promoted SA Premier League club Birkalla scored a coaching coup last week by appointing former Socceroo sweeper Milan Ivanovic as its senior coach and recruiting Phil Scardigno as assistant coach for the 2002 season.

While Ivanovic will shoulder the responsibilities of the Premier League squad, Scardigno has accepted the dual roles as senior assistant and director of coaching for a yet to be established Coaching Academy.

Birkalla left no recruiting avenue unexplored before catching the coaching cream

of the crop.

Ivanovic was acclaimed SA Coach of the Year for 2001 a fortnight ago for his work with White City Woodville Warriors, while Scardigno won the 2000 Coach of the Year award with Croydon Kings.

But, when Birkalla takes to the field next season it will do so under a different name, but will still sport the same Blue and Yellow colours.

The Con Makris-owned club will use the Premier League squad and its supporting under age teams as the spring board for its National Soccer League team, which, if accepted, will enter the NSL under a different identity to the Premier League team.

In a bid to attract new fans and new sponsors and to broaden its appeal to the southern districts, the Camden-based club will launch its new Premier League name and new logo next month.

"Birkalla has a proud history and we intend to build on that past reputation by fielding an impressive team wearing a vibrant newly designed uniform," said club spokesman Angelo Picca.

"We are thrilled to have such highly credentialled coaches as Milan Ivanovic and Phil Scardigno on board.

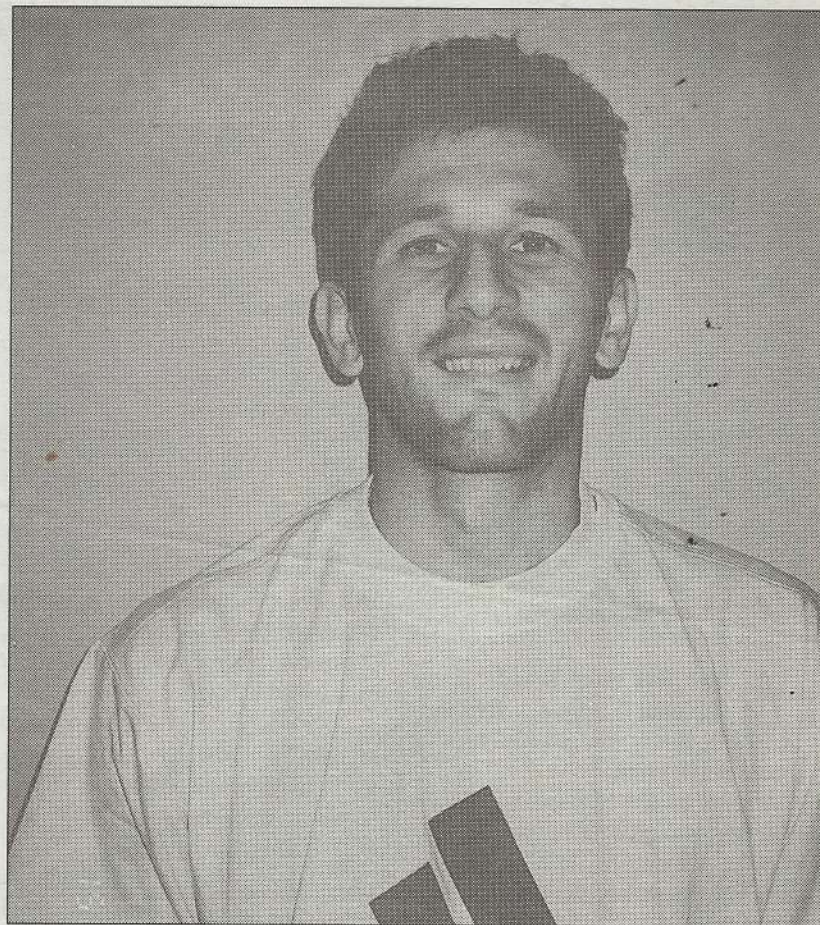
Picca said Ivanovic and Scardigno would both be involved in the selection of the other team coaches and would have the authority to

delegate.

The club's Under 23, Under 19 and Under 17 teams would be under the control of Scardigno, with the Premier League, Under 23 and Under 19 squads playing under the new club name.

Meanwhile, the teams below that level would retain the Birkalla name. Picca said an intensive recruiting program would begin soon, with Ivanovic and Scardigno identifying potential signings.

"The new academy will be named the Stars of the Future Academy, Picca revealed. "It will be a complete program with special guest coaches called in to conduct clinics during school holidays and other occasions."



Milan Ivanovic: Teaming-up with Phil Scardigno to handle Birkalla FC.

Wollongong News

By Otto Bader

Marketing Progress - Always the hardest job for any person to promote the sports club and or team. Speaking to Greg Burgess, the enthusiastic Marketing Manager of the Wollongong Wolves recently, the response so far has been very encouraging from the business world towards the NSL soccer club.

A lot of hard work went in to the promotion side and it's paying off. According to Greg, the sale of corporate boxes at WIN Stadium is progressing well. Also the club is quite pleased with the sale of season tickets.

Major sponsorships are tough to achieve, but nonetheless Greg Burgess and his crew including Corporate Relations Manager Chris Bevan have succeeded in securing major sponsorships from WIN TV and West Illawarra besides of dozens of minor sponsors.

Match Day sponsor for the match at WIN Stadium against Perth Glory is Betacall. For every home game an individual business sponsor is invited to contact the Wolves office.

Crash-landed Yet - Some say the Wolves are down and out after the recent loss against Parramatta. Considering the run of play and admitting the team did not harmonised that well, playing into the opposition's hand with giving the ball away cheaply. Of course it is disappointing to lose 3-1.

For everyone involved however, positives will be observed with shortcomings to be rectified by the coaching staff. Ron Corry is too long in the game to panic just as yet and will work with his boys to build-up confidence. Opportunities have to be utilised and with time, the side will and must find form.

No reason to give up as with the good players available, the proper formation will eventuate. Corry could consider a reshuffle of his players to stabilise certain positions, he might be forced to do that since suspended midfielder David Huxley and with captain George Souris still in doubt as well as Robert Stanton.

A final decision was expected be made on match day and hopefully the fans have something to cheer about. It was again a full house at WIN Stadium with leading side, Perth Glory and former Wolves favourite Matt Horsley taking the field.

Wolves Youngsters Successful - Youth Grade coach Eddie Tesoro recorded another great win, this time against Parramatta Powers, last season's leading side, winning 3:2. Goals coming from Vlado Sbrinovski, Leigh Dellis and Patrick Capullo, the young team this time strengthen by overage player Valdo Sbrinovski - a local soccer talent trying to break into the first grade starting eleven.

Big Ears Gone Forever - One often wondered where 'Big Ears' dug out confidential sensitive soccer information. He must have had a line to the soccer chiefs or using telepathy. Some stories not even known to ISA officials - they will now never know the source of knowledge with the sad retirement of 'Big Ears' and one of soccer's best friends in the Media.

Yes friends, it's true. Sportswriter and staunch soccer follower, respected journalist Phil Murphy has wrote his last column last week. Being in the job over 35 years, he knew everything about local soccer and the hierarchy in charge. In past years Phil had to battle for soccer space in the Mercury, dominated by that other hand/foot code - the tough 'whims' called boy - others whose local top man was also head man at the paper.

Thanks, many thank yous to Murph for never giving up, always pushing soccer, a sport he excelled in many moons ago. We all - the Wolves, ISA, local soccer clubs do appreciate Murph's efforts to fight for soccer publicity against all odds. Surely the fans wish

him a quiet retirement in good health with many more years to come - some of the old guard do remember Murph had a bad health scare some years ago.

Soccer has lost a true believer and not seeing Murph coming through the gates of local soccer matches or at Wolves games, will be strange with the bystanders always ready to grab his ear to 'hassle' him with useless information or sometimes good stories. The new man in charge is Paul Zalunardo taking



Wolves' midfielder, Alvin Ceccoli (right) tangoes with Perth Glory's Edgar Alrighi last Friday.

over and let's all welcome him to the fold to follow in Murph's steps with his wit and match reports.

Shellharbour's Image Lift - Barney King is the new coach at Shellharbour City Soccer Club determined to lift the soccer club out of the doldrums. The past season has not been successful to be frank, more a disappointment. Administration, Coaching Staff, Playing squads are in need of urgent improvement.

For the new soccer year 2002 a new man is at the helm - no stranger to top soccer experience - with new President elect Andy Campbell, a young professional, still active on the field when required with plenty of club involvement spending years with top soccer clubs around NSW as a player mainly and now carrying his knowledge over into running and rebuilding and fostering local soccer.

With the help of several very capable Committee Members it is aimed for to reach a higher standard.

Step one is the successful recruiting of one of Illawarra's best known local soccer coaches in Barney King - a striker and leading goal marksman in his playing days as well as training several local clubs as coach to higher divisions.

His knowledge of local talents, his image as respected soccer coach will assure quality players joining his team. Hopes are positive and high at Shellharbour City. Stay tuned for further steps on the

way in building a new club image which must lead to better progress than achieve previously.

To assemble top grade players is a priority, already in progress. Training once per week is scheduled for November. Youngsters from the local pool of juniors like the Oak Flats Juniors from U/16's to U/18's are cordially invited to join in the reinventing of Shellharbour.

The opportunity is there to train with a top soccer coach. Negotiations are undertaken to secure sponsorships, hopefully ongoing from the powerful Shellharbour Workers club and other business groups.

NSW Junior Champion of Champions - four local junior soccer teams from Unanderra - Albion Park - Oak Flats have reached the finals of the NSW State Champion of Championship elite, the crowning of soccer in this State.

The U/11's - U/13's - U/15's reached the semi-finals, a fine effort. The U/12's from Albion Park play in the Championship-finals now against Doonside Hawks, the U/14's from Unanderra meet West Pennants Hill, the U/16's from Unanderra play Doonside Hawks and the U/18's from Oak Flats face up against East Wood St. Andrews - all games are being played at Valentines Sports Park Glenwood Sydney, Parklea Sports Centre. Illawarra junior Association Clubs are to be congratulated on producing such outstanding soccer players and teams, taking on the State's top sides.



Damian Mori: Wolves' tormentor-in-chief last Friday night at the WIN Stadium.

Unbeaten Strikers turning heads in the NSL

By Glenn Davis

After just three rounds of the national league, Brisbane Strikers are already turning heads in the south.

Tipped by many in the media to be the wooden spooners this season, the Strikers are unbeaten in its two games with victories at home over the Auckland Kingz and away to Sydney United.

The Strikers, with its club catchcry this season "repaying the faith" to his supporters and sponsors, has assembled an impressive blend of experience and youth.

Several players from last year's squad are missing this season but coach John Kosmina has bought astutely buying half a dozen new players and leaving open the possibility of one or two overseas imports.

Former Soccerroo Kris Trajanovski has made a big impact up front alongside regular Paul Foster and needs no introduction after a star-studded career with previous clubs, Marconi, Sydney Olympic, Adelaide City and Preston.

Along with keeper Jason Kearton and Trajanovski, the Strikers' new faces include former Olyroo defender Richie Alagich (ex Sth Melb, West Adelaide), former Perth Glory midfielder John Carbone, AIS and QAS defender

Wayne Heath and youngster Matt McKay.

But it's not so much the new faces, which has provided the

Strikers with a winning formula so early in the season

Kosmina believes the switch from part-timers to full-time has been the major reason for its early success.

Instead of working and then making time for training three and four nights a week in past years, the Strikers now train



John Kosmina: "Training has improved."

five days a week as a team and workout in the gym before each game.

Kosmina has noticed a marked difference with the players' attitude to training since turning full-time professionals.

"Training has improved out of fight because their minds are on the job every day," Kosmina said.

"They're touching the ball all the time and that means they will improve in games."

Kosmina believes the Strikers have adapted quickly to the new format and have learned to make fulltime professionalism their lifestyle.

"You have to make football a lifestyle as much as possible and now these guys are more active both physically and mentally."

"When your livelihood depends on how well you play it spurs you on."

"If you're not performing, you aren't getting picked and you aren't earning as much money."

The Strikers had last weekend off with a bye following Canberra's withdrawal and their big test will come this weekend when it plays Melbourne Knights away.



Jason Kearton: Has established a formidable reputation between the posts for Strikers.

Tobin rues barren Newcastle draw

By Tim Caimakamis

Alex Tobin, the vastly-experienced defender and captain of Parramatta Power felt a little disappointing not to getting the three away points in the match against Newcastle United.

"I guess in the end, a draw is a good result against Newcastle on their home turf, but I think with the amount of chances we created, especially in the second half, we would of like to have won the game", said a circumspect Alex Tobin.

Both teams were solid in defence and cancelled each other out. "Newcastle had a couple of chances in the first half; it was the difficult conditions with blustering wind that stopped both teams playing a little bit", commented Alex.

"In the second half, the game opened up a little bit, we steadied and had the better of the half and could of knocked one or two in, but that's soccer", reflected the veteran as he acknowledged that his keeper Les Pogliacomi hardly had to make a save.



Alex Tobin

Commenting on media reports surrounding David Mitchell needing more firepower up front, Alex advised that people would always start saying that when you don't score freely. "Having said that the guys up front were very mobile and created chances that just didn't go in today". "Maybe an out 'n' out goalscorer would of put one away, I'm not too certain, but we're not disappointed with the way we played", confirmed Tobin.

Alex is looking forward to next week's match against his old team Adelaide City, and is familiar with many aspects of the club. He quietly confident in Parramatta's future, "For me, I think the way the season has started, it's been reasonable for us with a great result against Wollongong and a reasonable result tonight". This has set the Power up for next week's home game and they must "make sure we win".

ZAMORA NICKS BACK-TO-BACK AWARDS

By Graham Cooke

The quiet, bespectacled Oscar Zamora made ACT soccer history on Friday night when he became the first double winner of the Premiership Player of the Year award.

Zamora, in the midfield for premiers Gungahlin Juventus, repeated his 1999 triumph by finishing on 15 points, one ahead of teammate Steve Lazzari. Belconnen United's Robert Schroder was third.

Off the field Zamora looks like he might be happier in front of a computer screen than pulling on a pair of football boots. On it he regularly demonstrates the talent that could still take him to the top level of football in Australia.

Speaking after Soccer Canberra's annual presentation night, he paid tribute to his coach, Ian Heywood, for moving him from defence into the midfield for the 2001 campaign. "It helped me to learn new skills and brought an added dimension to my game," he said.

"I thought I began the season a bit slowly, but the team was playing so well around me that it was easy for me to pick up."

"In the end, I believe I was playing as well as anybody."

A member of the Belconnen Blue Devils

squad in the NSW Premier League, he said he felt ready for the summer season, and would not rule out another shot at the NSL should Canberra return to the competition.

Heywood, who was also named coach of the year, said the number of awards, both team and individual, which had come Juventus' way during the evening was evidence of the club's quality.

"The fact we had players finishing first and second in the voting, when there were others around them who would also have gained votes, is an indication of just how well we played," he said.

"I'll sit down with Juventus management next week and talk about the 2002 season, but if the Cosmos, or some other team, gets into the NSL next year I'll be putting my hand up for coach. It's about time we looked at the local scene when picking people to take change at that level."

The full list of awards was:

Players of the Year: Premiership, 1, Oscar Zamora (Gungahlin Juventus) 15pts, 2, Steve Lazzari (Gungahlin Juventus) 14pts, 3, Robert Schroder (Belconnen United) 13pts; Under 23 Division, George Tzakis (Canberra Olympic); Youth Division, Steve Hayes (Canberra Olympic).

Senior representative, Chief Minister's Award, Anthony Giannasca; grand final, George Cattanaach (Gungahlin Juventus);

ACT Academy (men) Tony Pangallo Memorial Trophy, Matthew Menser; under 16 boys representative, Nicolai Topor-Stanley; under 15 boys representative, David Kemp;

ACT Women's Soccer Association, Heather Birnie and Gill Thomson (tied); ACT Academy (women), Katrina Staniforth; under 14 girls representative, Tabitha Metherell.

Media awards (goalkeeper), Anthony Giannasca (Gungahlin Juventus); outfield player, Adrian Dowling (Belconnen United).

Referee of the Year: Bill Simeonovic.

Golden Boot: Premiership, Steve Lazzari 22 goals; Under 23 Division, John Cattanaach 10; Youth Division, Marn Nedeljkovic 15.

Coach of the Year: Senior League, Ian Heywood (Gungahlin Juventus); Junior League, Jack Kynaston (Marist College).

Fair Play: Senior League, Harmonie; Junior League, Woden Valley.

Special service awards: Ros McQueen, Joe Fusca, Stephanie Cooper, Keith Tournier.

Cathy McCallum Award for service to women's soccer: Donna O'Brien.

Hall of Fame inductees: Harvey Grigor, George Campbell, Mike Black, Paul Murphy, Roy Thompson.



Jean Tigana: Planning an early exit from soccer coaching.

Tigana may walk away from Fulham

Fulham coach, Jean Tigana has reportedly told former French international team-mate Michel Platini that he is considering retiring earlier than planned.

The former French midfield duo are close friends and Tigana is believed to have stated that the pressures of managing a Premiership side is getting to him.

Tigana has a contract with Fulham until 2005 - signing a five-year deal when he took over in the summer of 2000.

At 46, Tigana would seem to have many years ahead of him in management and with the West London side impressing with their attacking style of play, his position is surely safe.

However, what has happened with Gerard Houllier will obviously have a knock on effect around football and perhaps this is a factor in Tigana's decision.

Platini said: "Management is a crazy job these days and football has become a difficult world. The financial rewards are good, but there is a high price to pay. Defeats are forbidden and each one is a real crisis."

"Managers live under permanent, out-and-out stress. It is a job I could not do. Even if you win, half the squad moan because they have been left out."

"Jean Tigana told me, 'I will carry on for another year and a half and then I will quit'."

Van Basten tempted by comeback

Legendary Holland striker Marco van Basten is considering a sensational return to football after admitting that he is still drawn to the game.

"I have the feeling that I'm floating back to football," the former AC Milan hero explained.

"It's interesting, after distancing myself from the sport for so many years," Van Basten told the Dutch press agency ANP. "However, I don't know what this will lead to. I don't have any concrete offers."

"Man Utd made a mistake selling Stam"

Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson has been told he made a huge mistake by flogging Jaap Stam to Lazio and replacing him with Laurent Blanc.

Former Italian captain and Inter legend Giuseppe Bergomi told of his 'surprise' at the Scotsman's move, while another former Inter great, Sandro Mazzola, said Ferguson was inviting trouble.

"If you sell someone like Jaap Stam for £15 million and replace him with a 36-year-old, you're inviting trouble," Mazzola said.

The former French captain failed to command a first team place at Inter and joined The Red Devils on a free transfer at the end of August.

Since his arrival, Blanc has featured in eight games

in which United have leaked an astounding 14 goals and Bergomi feels that Blanc does not have what it takes to compete at the highest level anymore.

"Everyone here was surprised when United took Blanc from us. It looks like a terrible mistake," Bergomi added.

"You can't sell a player like Stam and expect to be able to replace him with Blanc. He is just not good enough."

"Technically, Blanc is still okay but he does have a big problem with pace."

Meanwhile, reports suggest United skipper Roy Keane is in talks over a new three-year deal at Old Trafford, worth an estimated £14 million.

Keane is out of contract at the end of next season and has hinted at quitting Old



Jaap Stam: His departure has plunged Man Utd into a defence crisis.

Trafford then, with a move to Scottish giants Celtic his preferred move.

Talks are understood to be at an advanced stage and would see Keane become one of the country's biggest earners on £90,000-a-week.



Following his controversial stints with Arsenal and Real Madrid, Anelka looks set to re-enact another volatile situation at PSG.

Another Anelka row brews at PSG

Controversial French striker Nicolas Anelka is in danger of missing the 2002 World Cup after again falling out with his third club in three years.

A training-ground dispute with Paris Saint Germain coach Luis Fernandez last week saw the former Arsenal and Real Madrid star removed from the squad for Sunday's 2-2 draw with Lyon.

Anelka's \$33 million return to PSG, the club he quit at the age of 17 to join Arsenal, has proved an expensive flop, but the young striker could yet pay the ultimate price.

A mixture of injuries, poor form and tactics not made to measure have left Anelka more isolated than ever at the club he was supposed to lead back to glory.

But Anelka must knuckle down in the French capital to have any chance of making the World Cup squad after being ignored by France coach Roger Lemerre since his dire performances at last summer's Confederations Cup.

The latest problems for the 22-year-old - who quit Highbury after complaining of his treatment by the press and lasted only a season at Real Madrid having failed to gain the respect of his team-mates - began last season.

Fernandez, the coach who gave Anelka his first chance at PSG, was looking to the talented hitman to set the standard - to become the team leader. He even made Anelka captain.

Clearly not suited to the role, Anelka failed to live up to Fernandez's lofty expectations - and things began to go wrong.

Whereas Fernandez was always ready to sweat blood in his days as a player at the Parc des Princes, Anelka is more inclined to shrug his shoulders when things do not go his way.

His sulky demeanour on the pitch seemed to rub off on some of his team-mates last season, but Fernandez has not been afraid to stamp his authority.

Stephane Dalmat, Peter Luccin, Ariel, Fabiano, Dael Hiroux and Fabrice Kelban have all been shipped out and Fernandez has turned to a crop of more experienced players in an attempt to get the best out of PSG's record investment.

He attracted Brazilian playmaker Ronaldinho and signed Jose Aloisio and Alex from Saint-Etienne. The French newspapers raved at prospect of seeing Anelka strike up a fruitful partnership with rising star Ronaldinho, but it has not worked out yet.

Anelka had a toe injury that caused him to miss most of pre-season and, by the time he came back, lacking sharpness, the team had almost settled.

The strapping Aloisio made a place for himself up front with his brave-hearted performances and crucial goals, while Anelka struggled with tactics that were not designed to exploit his greatest asset - pace.

After refusing to play the first match of the season because of his bad toe - a decision that did not please Fernandez - Anelka took it upon himself to leave the Parc des Princes before the end of the next game against Sochaux when he was substituted.

A section of the PSG crowd have started to jeer Anelka, whose runs into space rarely attract the attention of team-mates basing their game on a patient build-up and short passes to feet.

The question that Fernandez must now ponder is whether Anelka should adapt his style to suit the team or perhaps a club that paid so much for him should try harder to play to his strengths.

Whatever, two goals all season shows how badly Anelka has been getting on with his team-mates on the pitch and last week's altercation with Fernandez - not known to be a calm figure at the best of times - was on the cards.

As Fernandez explained the tactics for the Lyon match at a Thursday training session, Anelka, visibly exasperated, spat a volley of criticism. A row ensued and Anelka left the field as his embarrassed team-mates looked on.

The next morning, Fernandez started to spell out team tactics on the blackboard. Anelka let him know he didn't think much of the strategy. "If you don't agree, then leave," blasted Fernandez.

Anelka promptly got up and left. Shortly after, the two men had a noisy exchange of words that ended with Anelka excluded from the squad. He left the stadium as his team-mates got stuck into a session that seemed to run smoother in his absence.

Both parties now face difficult choices. PSG cannot afford to place Anelka on the transfer list because no club would currently pay anywhere near enough to cover the club's outlay.

Anelka, on the other hand, can't afford to sit on the sidelines if he wants to book a place in the France squad for the World Cup.

With Thierry Henry, David Trezeguet and Sylvain Wiltord already ahead of him in the pecking order, Anelka is now looking over his shoulder at the likes of Louis Saha, Steve Marlet, Sidney Govou and Djibril Cisse as the battle heats up for the final striking role.

So perhaps an edgy peace deal will be brokered, at least in the short term.

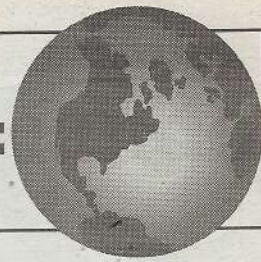
Once Fernandez decided he no longer wanted Laurent Robert, he chose to flatter the player in public and make him a regular fixture in the first team. The result was that Newcastle United were happy to stump up £9.5 million for the France winger.

The wily coach - who last Saturday came out with a laconic "Nico is a nice boy" - might now be working out a way of riding himself of the latest young star to let him down.

The problem then is where Anelka might go. While England remains the country best-suited to his style, it seems unlikely that a Premiership coach would put faith in the temperamental striker after the way he turned his back on Arsenal in 1999.

And after an ineffective season in Spain with Real Madrid, Anelka would get equally short shrift there. A Christmas move to Serie A remains the most likely scenario for France's young enigma.

If anyone will have him.



Champions League



GROUP A



Real Madrid's Luis Figo (left) in the match against Anderlecht in Brussels.

How They Stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	4	4	0	0	12	2	12
AS Roma	4	2	1	1	4	3	7
Anderlecht	4	0	2	2	2	7	2
L Moscow	4	0	1	3	2	8	1

GROUP B



Boavista's Goulart (bottom) is almost crushed by his teammate Duda after Goulart scored the winner for his team against Borussia Dortmund.

How They Stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	4	2	2	0	4	2	8
Boavista	4	2	1	1	7	5	7
Dortmund	4	1	2	1	5	5	5
Dynamo Kiev	4	0	1	3	4	8	1

GROUP C



Mallorca's Alejandro Campaño (left) fights for the ball with Schalke 04's Ebbe Sand.

How They Stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Panathinaikos	4	3	0	1	6	2	9
Arsenal	4	2	0	2	5	5	6
Real Mallorca	4	2	0	2	2	6	6
Schalke 04	4	1	0	3	6	6	3

GROUP D



Nantes striker Marama Vahirua (right) fights for the ball with Galatasaray defender Emre Asik during their match in Istanbul, Turkey.

How They Stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nantes	4	2	1	1	7	3	7
Galatasaray	4	2	1	1	3	3	7
PSV Eindhoven	4	2	0	2	6	7	6
Lazio	4	1	0	3	3	6	3

GROUP E

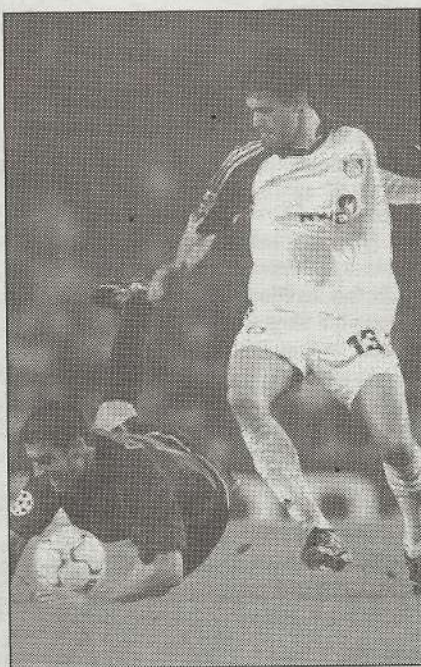


Juventus' French David Trezeguet celebrates after scoring against Norwegian Rosenborg in Turin.

How They Stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	4	2	2	0	5	3	8
Porto	4	2	1	1	5	2	7
Celtic	4	2	0	2	4	6	6
Rosenborg	4	0	1	3	2	5	1

GROUP F



Barcelona's Gerard Lopez (left) falls down next to Michael Ballack of Bayer Leverkusen during their match.

How They Stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	4	3	0	1	8	3	9
B Leverkusen	4	3	0	1	6	4	9
Lyon	4	2	0	2	4	4	6
Fenerbahce	4	0	0	4	2	9	0

GROUP G



Manchester United's Juan Veron against Deportivo La Coruna.

How They Stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
La Coruna	4	2	2	0	8	6	8
Man. Utd	4	2	0	2	6	5	6
Lille	4	1	1	2	5	5	4
Olympiakos	4	1	1	2	5	8	4

GROUP H



Bayern Munich's Brazilian Paulo Sergio (left) and Robson of Spartak Moscow during their match in Munich.

How They Stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
S Prague	4	3	1	0	8	0	10
B Munich	4	2	2	0	10	4	8
Feyenoord	4	0	2	2	4	10	2
S Moscow	4	0	1	3	4	12	1



CAPELLO BOWS OUT IN 2006

Fifty-five year-old coach Fabio Capello, who has led AC Milan, Real Madrid and AS Roma to significant successes, has shared his plans with *Guerin Sportivo* journal.

The present Roma coach has confessed that he feels tired and will end his coaching career not later than after five years.

"Every time I am a prey to thoughts that I am aged enough. I would like to achieve a significant success again before putting an end to my career," he said.

Capello seems not to resemble to other, coaches who continue coaching after 60-year-old age.

It will be recalled that Capello is one of the most demanded coaches in Europe. Under his guidance AC Milan won Champions League (1994), European Supercup (1994), became 4 times Serie A winners (1992, 1993, 1994, 1996), Italian Supercup winners (1992, 1993, 1994), Real Madrid won Spanish La Liga (1997), AS Roma — Serie A (2001).



Fabio Capello

FRANCE, ARGENTINA ARE PELE'S TIPS FOR W-CUP

Edson Arantes, popularly known as Pele, last week said that Argentina and France national teams are the favourites to win the World Cup 2002, whereas Germany are rather doubtful.

Everyone makes forecasts, both old and young people, as well as the foot-

ball superstars. Football king Pele isn't an exception as well. He always makes some predictions, which, though, never come true.

"Our (Brazil) national team do not perform as good as they used to. But still they are one of the best in the world. As for the German football, my

friend Franz Beckenbauer has recently shared his concern about it with me, as he sees no potential among the youth.

The favourites for the World Cup are Argentina and France, since their level of performance is very high," said Brazilian Soccer legend.

Raul seeks World Cup as crowning Glory

Spanish international and Real Madrid forward Raul gave an interview to the official journal of the Football Federation of Madrid last week and in particular, he announced that he may play much better.

"I hope that we will meet much better Raul one day. I try to improve my performance uninterruptedly. If I don't improve my performance then I'll try to keep it at the present level that is not so easy," he said. The Royal club forward who has nearly all awards at a

club level, makes no secret that his main aim is the conquest of the Mundial together with his team.

"What does not suffice me and all Spaniards is the fact that we have not won the World Cup. We have little chance of success. Of course, our team are not absolute favourites, but we are on the 6th-7th place among all national teams," he added.

Raul thinks that fate has not been particularly kind to the Spanish national team and that's why they have not won the World Cup up to now.



Raul Gonzalez

MALLORCA SACK COACH

Read Mallorca sacked coach Bernd Krauss last week in the wake of the Spanish side's 4-0 hammering by bottom-table Schalke 04 in their Champions League Group C tie.

Mallorca president Mateo Alemany said they were parting company with the 44-year-old German because of the club's poor showing both in the Champions League and in the Primera Liga where they are in 18th place.

Last Tuesday's loss put the Balearic side in third position on six points in their Group C behind second-placed Arsenal, also on six, who moved into second following their 2-1 home win over leaders Panathinaikos of Greece.

Krauss previously coached Spanish side Real Sociedad from 1997 to 1999 and Germany's Borussia Dortmund for the 1999-2000 season before his arrival in Mallorca at the beginning of the season.

A successor was later announced at a press conference Thursday.

FIFA

World Rankings

(Valid until November 21)



FIFA

founded 1904

1	France	816	69	Togo	527	136	Hong Kong	299
2	Brazil	799	70	Bosnia-Herzegovina	522	137	Yemen	295
3	Argentina	796	71	Kuwait	513	138	Korea DPR	294
4	Italy	739	72	Congo DR	512	139	Sierra Leone	290
4	Portugal	739	72	Liberia	512	140	Rwanda	282
6	Spain	730	72	Iraq	510	141	Andorra	273
7	Netherlands	724	74	Algeria	507	142	Surinam	268
8	Colombia	723	75	Cuba	506	143	Tajikistan	264
9	England	716	76	Burkina Faso	500	144	Luxemburg	262
10	Czech Republic	713	77	Cyprus	496	145	Myanmar	261
11	Mexico	709	78	Qatar	495	146	Palestine	253
11	Yugoslavia	709	79	Estonia	485	147	Bangladesh	252
13	Paraguay	705	80	Bolivia	484	147	Ethiopia	252
14	Germany	695	81	Haiti	483	149	Maldives	248
15	Romania	694	82	Canada	477	150	Sri Lanka	246
16	Croatia	685	83	New Zealand	477	151	Liechtenstein	245
17	Denmark	682	83	El Salvador	476	152	Botswana	230
18	Sweden	678	85	Macedonia	476	153	Antigua and Barbuda	226
19	United States	670	86	Indonesia	471	154	Nepal	220
20	Ireland Republic	669	87	Belarus	470	155	Tanzania	218
21	Russia	660	88	Venezuela	467	156	Gambia	215
22	Norway	658	89	Nthn Ireland	465	157	San Marino	213
23	Uruguay	656	90	Syria	464	158	Benin	211
24	Honduras	654	91	Oman	462	159	Dominica	210
25	Tunisia	6431	92	Albania	459	160	Dominican Rep	205
26	Japan	633	93	Lithuania	457	161	British Virgin Is.	202
26	Slovenia	633	94	Congo	454	161	Cape Verde Is.	202
28	Poland	632	95	Lebanon	453	163	Bermuda	201
29	Costa Rica	630	96	Latvia	449	164	Kyrgyzstan	199
30	Saudi Arabia	628	97	Armenia	448	165	Cayman Islands	195
31	Trinidad & Tobago	627	98	Namibia	444	166	Laos	194
32	South Africa	626	99	Jordan	442	167	Belize	187
33	Belgium	625	100	Wales	441	168	Vanuatu	182
34	Turkey	624	101	Gabon	439	169	Cambodia	180
35	Iran	621	102	Vietnam SR	438	170	Chinese Taipei	179
36	Morocco	617	103	Moldova	437	171	Eritrea	178
37	Chile	609	104	Guinea	432	172	Samoa	158
38	Cameroon	608	105	Kenya	429	173	Chad	157
38	Ecuador	608	106	Kazakhstan	422	174	Mauritania	156
40	Egypt	604	107	Barbados	416	175	Tonga	151
40	Slovakia	604	108	Singapore	407	176	Cook Islands	147
42	Nigeria	602	109	Malaysia	404	177	Guyana	144
43	Korea Republic	599	110	Panama	397	178	Philippines	143
44	Ukraine	596	111	Azerbaijan	393	179	Central African Rep.	
45	Peru	594	112	Turkmenistan	390	115		
46	Cote d'Ivoire	593	113	Bahrain	384	179	Netherlands Ant	115
47	Scotland	589	114	Libya	381	181	Macao	114
48	AUSTRALIA	586	115	Uganda	378	182	Pakistan	107
49	Finland	583	116	Mali	375	183	Bahamas	106
50	Israel	579	117	Faroe Islands	371	184	Sao Tome e Principe	
51	Bulgaria	576	118	India	366	105		
52	Jamaica	568	119	Sudan	365	185	Guinea-Bissau	104
53	Austria	564	120	Malawi	364	186	Aruba	101
54	Iceland	563	121	Madagascar	361	187	Mongolia	94
55	China PR	562	122	Fiji	349	188	Nicaragua	89
56	Angola	561	123	Mauritius	344	189	Brunei Darussalam	86
57	Greece	556	124	Mozambique	344	190	Niger	84
58	UAE	553	124	St Vincent/Gr	337	191	Equatorial Guinea	82
59	Georgia	552	126	Lesotho	336	192	Seychelles	74
60	Ghana	546	127	Tahiti	193	193	Djibouti	72
61	Zambia		127	St Kitts & Nevis	329	194	Anguilla	65
62	Guatemala	543	129	St Lucia	327	195	PNG	56
62	Switzerland	543	130	Swaziland	323	196	Puerto Rico	55
62	Thailand	543	131	Malta	313	197	Somalia	53
65	Senegal	534	132	Grenada	312	198	US Virgin Islands	48
66	Zimbabwe	533	133	Solomon Islands	309	199	Guam	26
67	Hungary	532	134	Burundi	300	200	Turks and	
67	Uzbekistan	532	135					

Note: Teams inactive since 1991 and teams which have not played yet do not appear in the table.

RUSSO WRITES

By Joe Russo

Christian Vieri has been out of action for approximately seven weeks and injuries for the big striker are nothing new.

In the last seven seasons he has missed approximately 80 league matches and countless cup and national team fixtures as well.

Vieri, who is currently into his third season with Inter, has played a year each for Lazio, Atletico Madrid, Juventus and Atalanta since 1995/96. It was only when he played for Juventus, in 1996/97, that he remained injury free.

However, when he was at Juve he was hardly an established regular and coach, Marcello Lippi, only started him in seven matches.

His latest injury, an Achilles-tendon injury, is still some way from mending. The reasons that Vieri gets injured so regularly are only hypothetical but it would be fairly safe to say that because of his total commitment, always 100% style of play, then it will inevitably lead to injuries occurring.

Inter and Italy certainly need Vieri fully fit especially with a World Cup so close. He missed Italy's recent clash with Hungary and Italy certainly seemed to lack firepower up front.

○○○○

Inter seem to have some good news on the way; firstly, Ronaldo is about to return from injury and secondly, Alvaro Recoba, the Uruguayan international, is also available from the start of November.

Recoba initially received a one-year suspension for his involvement in the 'false passports' scandal. However, that suspension has been reduced to four months because Italy has dropped all barriers to foreign players in their league.

In other words, there is no desperate need to have an Italian passport to play in Italy if you are from outside the European Union.

Recoba, who is currently trying to help his country Uruguay qualify for the World Cup and consequently may even be in action in Australia shortly, has also agreed to do a form of 'community service' until the end of June 2002.

One of Recoba's good deeds will be to be the face of an Italian Football Federation (FIGC) campaign against racism and crowd violence in soccer.

The other good news for Inter is that their Director of Sport, Gabriele Oriali, who was also one of Italy's stars in their 1982 World Cup win, will be available to resume duties in the new year when his suspension ends for his involvement in the affair.

Furthermore Inter as a club will also receive a reduced fine of just over \$A 1 million.

○○○○

The Serie A this year has four city derbies: Juventus v Torino, Inter v AC Milan, Chievo Verona v Verona and Roma v Lazio.

Derbies in Italy are always something special because the teams involved all share the same homeground. In England, a Merseyside derby is very special, but Liverpool (Anfield) and Everton (Goodison Park) have their own homegrounds. It is the same story in Manchester, London and Birmingham.

Recently we had Juventus v Torino and the newly-promoted Torino came back from a 0-3 deficit to equalise 3-3. It was a major shock given the status of both clubs, but it wasn't a shock considering that it was a derby and teams seem to grow an 'extra leg' for the occasion.

Last week we had Inter v AC Milan and in a few weeks, for the first time ever in the Serie A, we will have Chievo Verona v Verona.

This week it is Roma v Lazio, by far the most passionate derby in Italy. The capital city will be abuzz all week as this weekend's game approaches.

Roma are of course defending champions, having replaced Lazio as champions from the previous year. However, currently both teams are not setting the world on fire. In fact Lazio have really struggled and won their first game of the season only in Round 6 when a lucky 2-0 win at home over lowly-placed Atalanta saw them break the ice.

They have even sacked their coach Dino Zoff and replaced him with former Udinese and AC Milan mentor Alberto Zaccheroni. They are a team of megastars who, for one reason or another, can't seem to gel this year.

Roma on the other hand seem to be suffering some sort of post Scudetto blues. Coach Fabio Capello is blaming referees but besides Francesco Totti, all the other players aren't by any means playing their best football.

Nevertheless derby week in Rome is very special and the city is well and truly divided in its support. Romans passionately live derby week and neither side has any sympathy or soft spot for the other side.



Brescia striker Egli Tare (bottom) is outjumped by defender Nicola Boselli of Piacenza.

Shevchenko blasts Inter away

**INTER MILAN 2
AC MILAN 4**

AC Milan, trailing 1-0 at the break to a Nicola Ventola goal, put in a blistering second half performance to turn the match round.

They drew level on the hour through Andriy Shevchenko and went ahead when Romanian international Cosmin Contra blasted home from 25 metres two minutes later.

Contra crossed to Filippo Inzaghi whose header put Milan ahead in the 66th to make it three goals in six minutes.

Shevchenko added his second and Milan's fourth in the 78th minute before Mohammed Kallon claimed an injury-time consolation goal for Inter.

**ATALANTA 1
UDINESE 5**

Udinese won away for the second time this season in emphatic fashion as Martin Jorgensen and Roberto Muzzi each scored twice

and Vincenzo Iaquinta added another goal.

Cristiano Doni scored a short-lived equaliser for Atalanta early in the second half and the home team ended with ten men after Alex Pinardi was sent off in the 88th minute.

**PIACENZA 0
BRESCIA 1**

Roberto Baggio's 19th minute goal was enough to give Brescia their second win but the former European Player of the Year was carried off early in the second half with a knee injury.

**CHIEVO VERONA 1
PARMA 0**

Serie A newcomers Chievo went to the top of the standings with their fifth win, youngster Bernardo Corradi netting a cross from Brazilian Eriberto in the 24th minute for the only goal.

Parma came close to equalising

when Marco Di Vaio's free kick came off the bar and they piled on the pressure in the second half but were denied several times thanks to brilliant saves by Chievo goalkeeper Cristiano Lupatelli.

**FIorentina 0
Verona 2**

A penalty by defender Massimo Oddo two minutes before half-time and a splendid strike from Romanian international Adrian Mutu in the 57th minute gave Verona their third victory and lifted them to seventh.

**AS ROMA 5
LECCE 1**

Francesco Totti scored twice as Roma put their sluggish start to the season behind them and climbed to fifth with a convincing demolition of Lecce.

Totti put Roma in front with a glancing header from Vincent Candela's freekick in the eighth minute. He whipped over the corner which Argentine defender Walter Samuel slid home at the back post in the 38th and later hit the bar.

Lecce's Uruguayan Ernesto Chevanton pulled one back just after the hour with a sublime turn and chip to beat goalkeeper Francesco Antonioli, but Totti sparked a late

Roma flurry with a penalty five minutes later.

Candela made it four with a fine solo effort and four minutes from the end the Frenchman put Gabriel Batistuta clear on goal for the fifth.

**TORINO 1
PERUGIA 0**

A brilliant free kick by forward Marco Ferrante in the 26th minute enabled Torino to record their first victory.

Torino, coming off last week's thrilling come-from-behind draw against local rivals Juventus, missed numerous chances to increase their lead.

**VENEZIA 0
LAZIO 0**

Lazio continued to disappoint with their fifth draw against the bottom club despite the return from injury of Alessandro Nesta and striker Hernan Crespo.

Lazio and Venezia are Serie A's lowest scoring clubs with only three goals in seven matches.

**BOLOGNA 0
JUVENTUS 0**

After a dull first half, Juventus coach Marcello Lippi substituted midfielder Alessio Tacchinardi for forward Marcelo Salas in hopes of bolstering his attack.

But after five minutes, Salas had to be carried off with a serious knee injury.

This Week Sunday, October 28

Brescia vs Venezia
Chievo vs Torino
Juventus vs Inter
Lecce vs Atalanta
Milan vs Bologna
Parma vs Verona
Perugia vs Piacenza
Roma vs Lazio
Udinese vs Fiorentina

Table After Week Eight

Atalanta	1	Udinese	5
Bologna	0	Juventus	0
Chievo Verona	1	Parma	0
Fiorentina	0	Verona	2
Inter Milan	2	AC Milan	4
Piacenza	0	Brescia	1
AS Roma	5	Lecce	1
Torino	1	Perugia	0
Venezia	0	Lazio	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Chievo Verona	7	5	1	1	15	8	16
2. AC Milan	7	4	2	1	17	10	14
3. Inter Milan	7	4	2	1	12	5	14
4. Bologna	7	4	1	2	4	3	13
5. Juventus	7	3	3	1	12	7	12
6. AS Roma	7	3	3	1	11	6	12
7. Verona	7	3	2	2	7	5	11
8. Brescia	7	2	4	1	12	10	10
9. Udinese	7	2	3	2	13	10	9
10. Lecce	7	2	3	2	10	11	9
11. Piacenza	7	2	2	3	11	11	8
12. Lazio	7	1	5	1	3	3	8
13. Parma	7	1	4	2	6	7	7
14. Perugia	7	1	3	3	6	9	6
15. Torino	7	1	3	3	8	12	6
16. Fiorentina	7	2	0	5	10	17	6
17. Atalanta	7	1	1	5	6	16	4
18. Venezia	7	0	2	5	3	12	2



Chievo's Chris Manfredini (right) escapes from Parma star, Sabri Lamouchi.



O'Leary sees red!

LEEDS UNITED 0
CHELSEA 0

A tough encounter of few chances saw both midfields crash into each other for 90 unrelenting minutes and end with the teams remaining the only two unbeaten in the league.

The highlight of the game was a sending-off for Leeds' manager David O'Leary after remonstrating with a match official Leeds had the best of the few chances, having two efforts cleared off the line, while Nigel Martyn made two good saves, including one in injury time when he tipped an Emmanuel Petit free kick on to the bar.

The point took Leeds back to the top spot they had lost to Arsenal for 25 hours.

FULHAM 1
IPSWICH TOWN 1

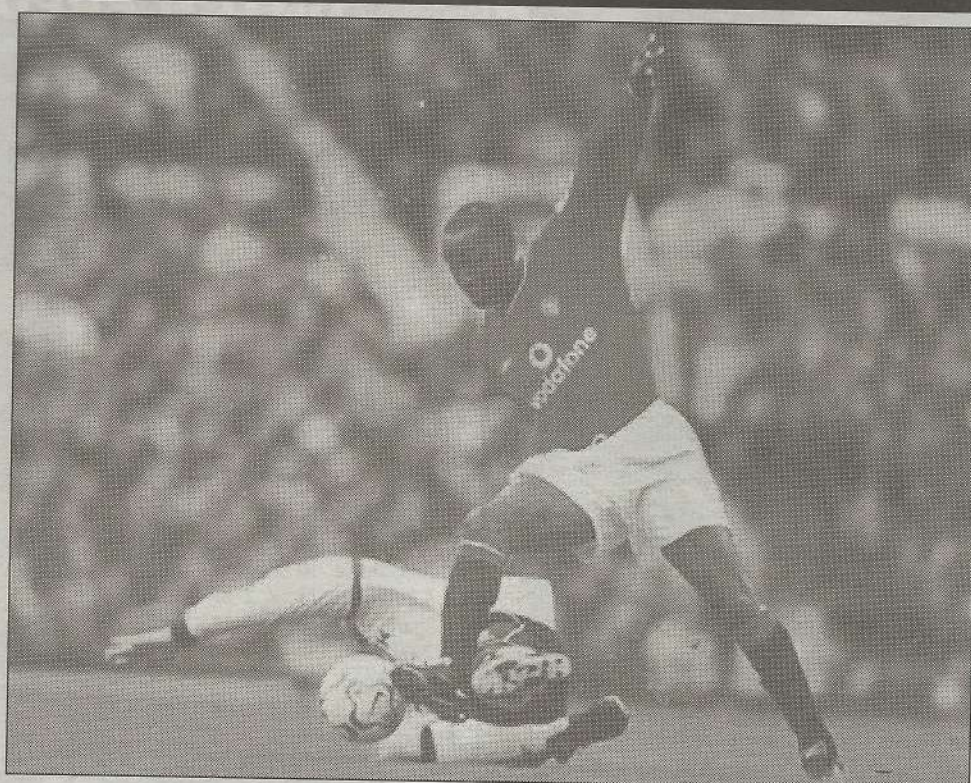
Barry Hayles gave Fulham the lead from close range after 22 minutes but Luis Boa Morte missed a penalty seven minutes later and was sent off on the stroke of halftime for diving, having earlier been booked.

Ipswich rallied after the break and equalised through Jermaine Wright after 55 minutes. The result took Fulham into 14th place and left Ipswich fourth from bottom. Both clubs are seeking their first win since August.

ARSENAL 3
BLACKBURN 3

A great match, full of action, with Blackburn always looking dangerous on the break. Keith Gillespie gave Blackburn a shock lead with a deflected shot four minutes before the break but Robert Pires and Dennis Bergkamp had the hosts ahead seven minutes into the second half.

David Dunn then squeezed a low shot past Wright from almost 30 metres to level it again at 2-2 only for Thierry Henry to restore Arsenal's lead.



Andy Cole (top) evades the tackles of Bolton Wanderers' defender, Paul Warhurst.

Brad Friedel made three good saves before Dunn earned a point with a well-executed volley into an empty net after Wright was stranded after making a save a minute from time.

NEWCASTLE UTD 0
TOTTENHAM 2

Newcastle had hoped to go third with a win but instead dropped to 10th as Spurs climbed three places to ninth.

A Gary Speed own goal and a Gus Poyet header, both created by Darren Anderton in the opening 20 minutes, gave Spurs a deserved win as their crisp counter-attacking proved too hot for the hosts to handle.

DERBY COUNTY 1
CHARLTON 1

Fabrizio Ravanelli header after 15 minutes had Derby in front but Jason Euell

deservedly equalised in the 73rd minute.

EVERTON 3
ASTON VILLA 2

Former Villa defender Steve Watson headed Everton into a deserved first-half lead and Tomasz Radzinski made it two after the break.

Thomas Gravesen capped a great midfield performance with Everton's third in the 65th minute as they looked to match the 5-0 home win over West Ham United last time out.

However, Mustapha Hadji pulled one back in the 71st minute and goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel then went up for a last-minute corner and volleyed in Villa's second but it came too late to preserve their unbeaten start to the season.

LEICESTER CITY 1
LIVERPOOL 4

Robbie Fowler broke his league duck for the season in fine style with a hat-trick.

Two in the first half, either side of Sami Hyypia's header, had Liverpool comfortably 3-0 up at halftime.

Dennis Wise pulled one back with a second-half header but Fowler completed his hat-trick with a stunning volley.

It was not what new Leicester manager Dave Bassett wanted in his first home match in charge of the league's bottom club but he will look to a trio of bad misses by striker Ade Akinbiyi as evidence that at least his midfield are at last creating chances.

MAN. UTD 1
BOLTON 2

United slumped to their second home defeat in four days as Michael Ricketts seized on a Wes Brown error six minutes from time to give Bolton a shock win.

PREMIER DIVISION

Fulham 1 Ipswich Town 1, Leeds Utd 0 Chelsea 0, Newcastle United 0 Tottenham Hotspur 2, Arsenal 3 Blackburn Rovers 3, Derby County 1 Charlton Athletic 1, Everton 3 Aston Villa 2 Leicester City 1 Liverpool 4, Manchester Utd 1 Bolton Wanderers 2, West Ham 2 Southampton 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Leeds United	9	5	4	0	12	3	19
2. Arsenal	9	5	3	1	21	8	18
3. Manchester United	9	5	2	2	26	16	17
4. Liverpool	8	5	1	2	15	9	16
5. Aston Villa	8	4	3	1	13	6	15
6. Bolton Wanderers	10	4	3	3	12	11	15
7. Chelsea	8	3	5	0	12	7	14
8. Everton	9	4	2	3	15	12	14
9. Tottenham Hotspur	10	4	2	4	16	14	14
10. Newcastle United	9	4	2	3	15	13	14
11. Blackburn Rovers	10	3	4	3	18	14	13
12. Sunderland	9	3	3	3	9	10	12
13. Charlton Athletic	8	2	4	2	8	8	10
14. Fulham	9	1	5	3	8	11	8
15. Middlesbrough	9	2	2	5	8	17	8
16. West Ham United	8	2	2	4	7	16	8
17. Ipswich Town	9	1	4	4	7	12	7
18. Derby County	9	1	3	5	7	16	6
19. Southampton	8	2	0	6	5	14	6
20. Leicester City	10	1	2	7	6	23	5

DIVISION ONE

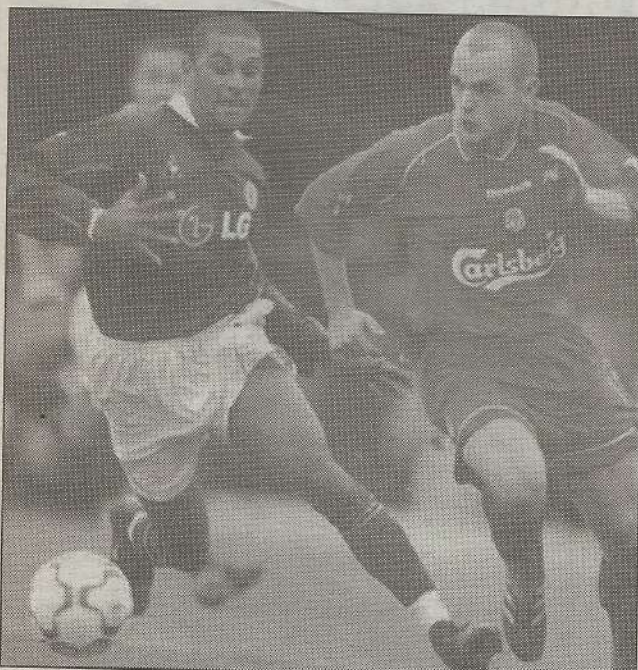
Coventry 1 Crewe 0, Preston 2 Manchester City 1, Birmingham 4 Bradford 0, Burnley 3 Barnsley 3, Grimsby 0 Watford 3, Millwall 3 Nottingham Forest 3, Portsmouth 1 Sheffield Utd 0, Sheffield Wednesday 2 Walsall 1, Stockport 0 Rotherham 1, Wimbledon 3 Gillingham 1, Wolverhampton 0 Crystal Palace 1, Norwich 2 West Bromwich 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Crystal Palace	12	9	0	3	32	16	27
2. Wolverhampton	13	8	3	2	23	11	27
3. Norwich	13	8	1	4	17	15	25
4. Coventry	13	7	3	3	15	9	24
5. Burnley	13	7	2	4	30	22	23
6. West Bromwich	13	7	1	5	16	12	22
7. Birmingham	13	6	3	4	23	16	21
8. Portsmouth	13	6	3	4	23	18	21
9. Manchester City	13	6	2	5	30	24	20
10. Nottingham Forest	13	5	5	3	15	11	20
11. Wimbledon	13	5	4	4	24	20	19
12. Preston	13	5	4	4	17	18	19
13. Millwall	12	5	3	4	19	15	18
14. Watford	12	5	2	5	20	18	17
15. Bradford	13	5	2	6	22	24	17
16. Crewe	13	5	2	6	12	20	17
17. Sheffield United	14	3	7	4	14	16	16
18. Grimsby	14	4	3	7	15	27	15
19. Rotherham	14	3	5	6	14	21	14
20. Gillingham	12	4	1	7	18	20	13
21. Sheffield Wednesday	14	2	5	7	13	26	11
22. Barnsley	13	2	4	7	14	27	10
23. Walsall	13	2	3	8	11	22	9
24. Stockport	13	1	4	8	18	27	7

DIVISION TWO

Port Vale 1 Stoke 1, Swindon 0 Cardiff 3, Bournemouth 0 Brentford 2, Brighton 3 Oldham 0, Bristol 0 Wycombe 1, Bury 2 Chesterfield 1, Colchester 3 Cambridge 1, Notts County 3 Reading 4, Peterborough 3 Blackpool 2, QPR 0 Northampton 1, Tranmere 1 Huddersfield 0, Wigan 2 Wrexham 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Brentford	13	8	4	1	24	11	28
2. Brighton	14	8	4	2	21	11	28
3. Bristol City	14	7	4	3	22	13	25
4. Stoke	12	7	2	3	16	6	23
5. Peterborough	14	7	2	5	23	16	23
6. Wycombe	14	6	5	3	18	13	23
7. Oldham	14	6	4	4	29	21	22
8. Colchester	14	7	1	6	24	22	22
9. Tranmere	14	6	3	5	25	21	21
10. Queens Park Rangers	14	6	3	5	18	15	21
11. Reading	13	6	2	5	15	14	20
12. Huddersfield	14	6	2	6	16	16	20
13. Swindon	13	5	4	4	15	16	19
14. Blackpool	13	5	3	5	21	25	18
15. Cardiff	12	4	5	3	18	14	17
16. Bournemouth	14	4	4	6	15	23	16
17. Port Vale	14	4	3	7	21	23	15
18. Notts County	13	4	3	6	17	22	15
19. Chesterfield	14	3	5	6	16	20	14
20. Cambridge	14	3	4	7	15	24	13
21. Northampton	14	4	1	9	13	25	13
22. Wrexham	12	3	3	6	18	28	12
23. Wigan	12	2	3	7	14	20	9
24. Bury	13	2	2	9	10	25	8

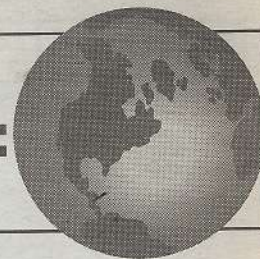
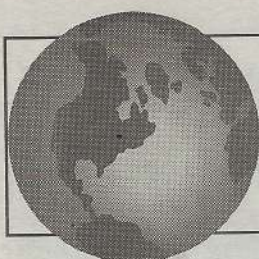


Leicester defender, Steve Piper (left) tries to stop Liverpool midfielder, Danny Murphy.

THIS WEEK

(Wednesday, October 24)
Southampton vs Liverpool

(Saturday, October 27)
Aston Villa vs Bolton
Tottenham vs Middlesbrough
Charlton vs Liverpool
Everton vs Newcastle
Fulham vs Southampton
Ipswich vs West Ham
Manchester Utd vs Leeds
Sunderland vs Arsenal
(Sunday, October 28)
Derby vs Chelsea
(Tuesday, October 29)
Blackburn vs Leicester



Spanish Primera Liga

Tiny Celta hold mighty Madrid

Celta Vigo put an end to the surprising Celta Vigo preserved their unbeaten record by holding Real Madrid to a 1-1 draw in front of 70,000 spectators at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium on Sunday.

Celta's Spanish international Catanha gave Real a fright by scoring after nine minutes, the Brazilian-born forward stabbing the ball home from a corner.

However, Real recovered their composure quickly and were the better team for much of the rest of the game, after Celta clearly opted to play things safe in the second half.

Jose Maria Gutierrez equalised after 25 minutes after the French pairing of Zinedine Zidane and Claude Makelele had brought the ball through the midfield with a well-worked passing sequence.

The draw keeps Celta in second place in the Spanish first division, with 17 points from nine games, but they are three points adrift of the league leaders and arch local rivals Deportivo La Coruna.

Deportivo beat Sevilla 1-0 to stay in pole position while Real Madrid continue to languish in 15th place.

Valencia are the only other unbeaten team in the Spanish top flight and move up to fourth spot after two outstanding strikes from Kily Gonzalez gave them a 2-0 win over Real Zaragoza.

Gonzalez showed no sympathy towards his former club, and his opener on the half hour will rate as one of the best of the season.

The Argentine winger was out wide, close to the left touchline, took three touches to bring the ball under control before blasting it home from a narrow angle with his right foot.

Struggling Real Mallorca gave their fans something to smile about with a 3-0 win over Rayo Vallecano, their first win of the campaign.

Goals from Alvaro Novo, Alberto Luque and Veljko Paunovic doubled the island club's tally for the season and condemned Rayo to bottom spot, although Mallorca are only two places above them and still in the relegation zone.

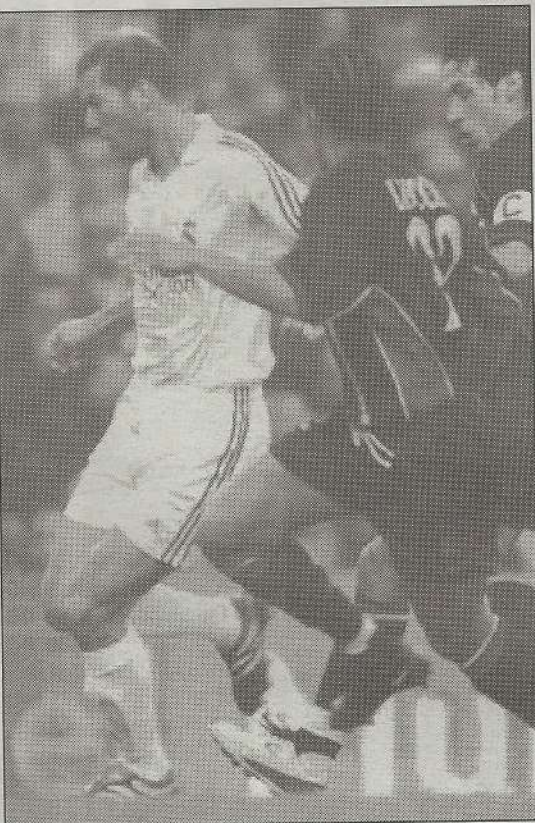
Novo found the net after only six minutes following a Alejandro Campano corner.

Rayo's defence was in all kinds of disarray for the entire game, but their resistance finally crumbled 17 minutes from the end when the unmarked Alberto Luque put the ball past Rayo 'keeper Imanol Etxeberria from close range.

Seven minutes later Etxeberria was left similarly exposed for Paunovic to score and put the game beyond reach.

Alaves got their best away victory for more than a year when they beat Valladolid 3-1.

Fabrizio Coloccini headed Alaves' first goal after 20 minutes and Ruben Navarro put the Basque side 2-0 up just two minutes later.



Real Madrid's Zinedine Zidane (left) is chased by Celta Vigo's Luccin (centre) and Mostovoi.

minutes and Ruben Navarro put the Basque side 2-0 up just two minutes later.

The 19-year-old Coloccini, captain of Argentina's under-20 World Cup winning side earlier this year, was on target again three minutes after the break, this time firing the ball home after a corner fell at his feet.

Luis Garcia got one back for Valladolid from the penalty spot after 55 minutes and the home side piled on the pressure but the Alaves defence, the meanest in the Spanish first division, held firm for the remainder of the match.

Weekend Fixtures

Athletic Bilbao vs Espanyol
Alaves vs Las Palmas
Celta Vigo vs Valladolid
Villarreal vs Real Madrid
Barcelona vs Betis Sevilla
Real Zaragoza vs Malaga
Sevilla vs Valencia
Rayo Vallecano vs Deportivo Coruna
Osasuna vs Mallorca
Tenerife vs Real Sociedad

Espanyol 2 Tenerife 0, Real Madrid 1 Celta Vigo 1, Real Mallorca 3 Rayo Vallecano 0, Valencia 2 Real Zaragoza 0, Valladolid 1 Alaves 3, Deportivo Coruna 1 Sevilla 0, Las Palmas 1 Athletic Bilbao 1, Malaga 1 Barcelona 1, Real Betis 1 Villarreal 1, Real Sociedad 2, Osasuna 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Deportivo Coruna	9	6	2	1	17	9	20
2. Celta Vigo	9	4	5	0	17	7	17
3. Real Betis	9	5	2	2	13	8	17
4. Valencia	9	4	5	0	11	6	17
5. Barcelona	9	4	4	1	14	7	16
6. Alaves	9	4	3	2	10	5	15
7. Villarreal	9	4	2	3	10	8	14
8. Espanyol	9	4	1	4	12	15	13
9. Sevilla	9	3	3	3	14	13	12
10. Athletic Bilbao	9	3	3	3	11	13	12
11. Las Palmas	9	3	2	4	10	7	11
12. Real Zaragoza	9	3	2	4	9	11	11
13. Valladolid	9	3	2	4	11	15	11
14. Osasuna	9	3	2	4	5	11	11
15. Real Madrid	9	2	4	3	14	13	10
16. Malaga	9	2	4	3	11	12	10
17. Tenerife	9	3	1	5	7	12	10
18. Real Mallorca	9	2	2	5	6	12	8
19. Real Sociedad	9	1	2	6	9	17	5
20. Rayo Vallecano	9	1	1	7	8	18	4



Barcelona striker Saviola in action against Malaga over the weekend.

WORLD LEAGUES

DUTCH EREDIVISIE

Den Bosch 1 Utrecht 1, Groningen 1 Heerenveen 1, NEC 2 Twente Enschede 0, PSV Eindhoven 4 Graaafschap 0, Willem II Tilburg 3 RKC Waalwijk 1, AZ Alkmaar 1 Feyenoord 3, Vitesse Arnhem 1 NAC Breda 0, Sparta R. 0 Roda JC Kerkrade 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Ajax	8	7	1	0	20	3	22
2. Vitesse	10	6	3	1	10	3	21
3. Feyenoord	8	6	1	1	17	3	19
4. Utrecht	10	5	1	4	16	12	16
5. Willem II	10	4	4	2	16	12	16
6. Heerenveen	9	4	3	2	17	8	15
7. PSV	10	4	2	4	16	16	14
8. NEC Nij.	10	4	2	4	10	16	14
9. Waalwijk	10	4	1	5	11	10	13
10. Graaafschap	10	4	1	5	14	17	13
11. Den Bosch	10	2	6	2	12	11	12
12. NAC Breda	10	3	3	4	12	17	12
13. AZ Alkmaar	10	3	2	5	11	14	11
14. Sparta	10	2	4	4	10	21	10
15. Twente E.	9	2	3	4	10	15	9
16. Groningen	10	2	2	6	9	17	8
17. Roda JC	10	2	1	7	10	17	7
18. Fortuna S.	8	1	2	5	8	17	5



PSV's Andre Ooijer (left) and Rudy Turpijn of Graaafschap tussle for the ball.

BELGIUM ERSTE KLASSE

Lierse 1 Ghent 2, Club Brugge 3 Aalst 0, Beveren 3 Sint-Truiden 2, La Louviere 3 Standard Liege 1, Westerlo 1 Beerschot 2, Anderlecht 2 Charleroi 1, Genk 4 Lommel 2, Lokeren 2 Mouscron 1, Antwerp 1 Molenbeek 2.



Aalst's Damir Stojak (front) controls the ball as Brugges' Rune Lange looks on.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Ghent	10	8	1	1	19	10	25
2. Club Brugge	9	8	0	1	23	8	24
3. Genk	10	6	3	1	29	14	21
4. Anderlecht	9	5	3	1	21	11	18
5. Aalst	10	5	1	4	12	17	16
6. Liege	9	4	3	2	14	11	15
7. Sint-Truiden	10	4	3	3	18	16	15
8. Charleroi	9	4	2	3	10	11	14
9. Lokeren	9	4	1	4	14	10	13
10. Beerschot	10	3	4	3	20	17	13
11. Lierse	10	3	3	4	11	13	12
12. Lommel	10	3	3	4	18	24	12
13. Westerlo	9	3	1	5	15	16	10
14. Mouscron	10	3	0	7	14	15	9
15. Antwerp	10	2	2	6	14	18	8
16. Molenbeek	10	2	1	7	10	18	7
17. Beveren	10	1	3	6	9	27	6
18. La Louviere	10	1	2	7	11	26	5

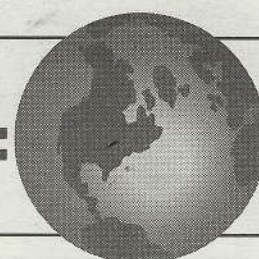
PORTUGUESE FIRST DIVISION

Beira Mar 6 Alverca 2, Varzim 2 Farense 0, Salgueiros 3 Pacos Ferreira 2, Porto 1 Belenenses 2, Benfica 2 Gil Vicente 0, Boavista 3 Braga 0, Maritimo 2 Vitoria Guimaraes 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Boavista	10	7	1	2	18	8	22
2. Benfica	9	4	5	0	17	11	17
3. Porto	9	5	1	3	17	7	16
4. Beira Mar	9	4	3	2	21	15	15
5. Maritimo	9	5	0	4	15	11	15
6. Sporting	8	4	1	3	14	9	13
7. Belenenses	9	4	1	4	14	14	13
8. Vitoria G.	9	4	1	4	9	14	13
9. Braga	9	3	2	4	14	9	11
10. Gil Vicente	9	3	2	4	8	12	11
11. Farense	9	3	2	4	7	12	11
12. Vitoria S.	8	3	1	4	13	12	10
13. Uniao Leiria	8	2	4	2	8	8	10
14. Salgueiros	9	3	1	5	8	17	10
15. Alverca	9	3	1	5	13	21	10
16. Santa Clara	9	2	3	4	8	15	9
17. Varzim	9	2	2	5	10	18	8
18. Pacos Ferreira	9	1	5	3	9	10	8



Porto's Pena (left) and Belenenses' Luis Filgueira fight for the ball.



SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE



Celtic striker Henrik Larsson (left) evades Dundee United's Hasney Alofree during their weekend match at Parkhead.

INJURY BLOW FOR CELTIC'S LARSSON

Celtic extended their lead at the top of the Scottish Premier League to seven points over arch-rivals Rangers after a 5-1 demolition of Dundee United at Parkhead last Saturday.

Elsewhere, there was a similar goal tally on the road for Livingston, who trounced Kilmarnock 5-1 to remain third, while fourth-placed Aberdeen beat Dunfermline 3-2 courtesy of a brace from Robbie Winters. Dundee's game against Motherwell was postponed.

But victory came at a price for Celtic, who saw star striker Henrik Larsson taken off in the second half with a mystery illness which could rule him out of this week's crucial Champions League clash with Rosenborg.

Celtic must win in Norway on Tuesday to stand any realistic chance of progressing in the competition after their mid-week mauling in Porto. "Henrik was just not feeling well," said Celtic boss Martin O'Neill.

"He's just feeling a bit of sickness at the moment in his stomach. But he wouldn't even tell you if he was feeling ill before the game and that's to his great credit. Sutton has missed the last three games with tonsillitis, adding to O'Neill's selection headache, but encouragingly, the Englishman's absence has allowed Wales' John Hartson to take his chance. Hartson, in his sixth game since his 6-million-pound (8.6 million dollars) move from Coventry City, scored inside eight minutes and went on to bag a late hat-trick.

Bobo Balde and substitute Shaun Maloney added to Celtic's joy and a consolation from Jim McIntyre did nothing to restore a smile to the face of United manager boss Alex Smith. Second half goals by Shoto Arveladze and Tore Andre Flo gave Rangers a 2-0 Scottish premier league victory at bottom club St Johnstone. Arveladze reacted quickly to head the first in the 48th minute after Michael Ball's shot came back off the bar and Flo made sure of the win with a simple finish 20 minutes from time. The win takes Rangers to 24 points, seven behind leaders Celtic who beat Dundee United 5-1 with a hat-trick from John Hartson.

In Sunday's matches, Rangers defeated St Johnstone 0-2 away from home to cut the gap back to seven points after 11 games of the season.

Hibernian 2 Hearts 1, St Johnstone 0 Rangers 2, Aberdeen 3 Dunfermline Athletic 2, Celtic 5 Dundee United 1, Kilmarnock 1 Livingston 5.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Celtic	11	10	1	0	28	4	31
2. Rangers	11	7	3	1	27	9	24
3. Livingston	11	5	5	1	16	8	20
4. Hibernian	11	5	2	4	23	17	17
5. Aberdeen	11	5	2	4	18	17	17
6. Kilmarnock	11	4	2	5	13	17	14
7. Dundee United	11	4	2	5	14	23	14
8. Hearts	11	4	1	6	13	14	13
9. Dundee	10	3	2	5	9	18	11
10. Motherwell	10	2	3	5	13	21	9
11. Athletic	11	3	0	8	16	25	9
12. St Johnstone	11	0	3	8	7	24	3

FRENCH CHAMPIONNAT

CHAMPS NANTES STILL WINLESS

Paris St Germain lived up to their potential Sunday with an emphatic 2-1 away win at Sedan as Bordeaux left it late to come away with a lucky 1-0 win at home against Metz.

The capital side, who despite having great potential have failed to challenge thus far, welcomed a slice of luck as Sedan had a perfectly good goal knocked off in the first half.

After the interval, PSG turned up the pressure to open the scoring through talented Brazilian Jose Aloisio, who popped a loose ball into the net on 53 minutes after a mix-up in the Sedan defence.

Sedan, who languish second from bottom of the league, were impressive to watch and got back into the game through a Cedric Mionnet goal in the 68th minute.

PSG seemed determined to come away with full honours, and it was captain Frederic Dehu who popped up with 10 minutes to play to deliver the killer blow. PSG now sit in eighth place just behind Bordeaux. The Bordeaux match was a less entertaining affair, with a late goal from Portuguese international forward Pauleta breaking the deadlock after 87 minutes. Troyes came back from 2-1 down at half time against league new boys Lorient to run out 4-2 winners.

Troyes sit in sixth place way behind leaders Lens.

Lens regained the helm of the league with a 2-0 home win against top flight returnees Montpellier Saturday while Lyon failed to go top when they were humbled by a 1-1 home draw against league newcomers Sochaux. Lille lost top spot to RC Lens after failing to break down Marseille. Midfielder Bruno Cheyrou squandered their best chance 15 minutes from time in a 0-0 draw.

Nantes, still looking for their first league victory of the season, twice came from behind to snatch a 2-2 draw with Auxerre. Finland's Teemu Tainio scored with a 35-metre lob after Nantes goalkeeper Mickael Landreau ran out of his area in the 57th minute.

Midfielder Olivier Quint equalised from the penalty spot 10 minutes later but Auxerre were back in front within a minute with a penalty by Khalilou Fadiga. Nantes finished with ten men after Tainio was redcarded in the 70th and Frederic Da Rocha secured a point with an 84th minute strike.



Action from last weekend's French Championnat.

Bordeaux 1 Metz, Troyes 4 Lorient 2, Sedan 1 Paris St Germain, Olympique Lyon 1 Sochaux 1, Marseille 0 Lille 0, Nantes 2 AJ Auxerre 2, En Avant Guingamp 2 Monaco 1, Bastia 1 Stade Rennes 2, RC Lens 2 Montpellier 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. RC Lens	11	7	3	1	19	10	24
2. Lille	11	6	5	0	12	5	23
3. Lyon	11	6	3	2	20	9	21
4. AJ Auxerre	11	5	5	1	18	11	20
5. Sochaux	11	5	3	2	19	13	19
6. Troyes	11	5	2	4	16	12	17
7. Girondins	11	4	5	2	7	4	17
8. Paris	11	2	7	1	14	10	16
9. En Avant	11	4	2	5	9	15	14
10. Stade Rennes	11	4	2	5	12	20	14
11. Bastia	11	4	1	6	10	14	13
12. Monaco	11	3	3	5	10	11	12
13. Lorient	11	3	3	5	15	18	12
14. Marseille	11	2	5	4	6	7	11
15. Metz	11	3	1	7	6	11	10
16. Montpellier	11	1	6	4	6	9	9
17. Sedan	11	1	5	5	9	16	5
18. Nantes	11	0	4	7	6	17	4

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA



Bayer Leverkusen's Ze Roberto after scoring against Stuttgart.

BAYERN TAKES CONTROL

Mali midfielder Soumaila Coulibaly led the charge against Borussia Dortmund on Sunday as lowly Freiburg put the early season Bundesliga leaders to the sword with a 2-0 home defeat.

Coulibaly opened the scoring for Freiburg in the 44th minute, with defender Sebastian Kehl adding a second on the stroke of full-time to hand Freiburg only their third win of the season.

All eyes were on defending champions Bayern Munich, who took control of the league with a convincing 4-1 win over Kaiserslautern.

Bayern, who were without a host of top name stars, went into the lead through Paraguay international forward Roque Santa Cruz in the 16th minute.

Only six minutes later, Bosnian international Hasan Salihmidzic came through to score Bayern's second, and he was on target again on 29 minutes when the hosts were awarded a penalty.

After the break, Kaiserslautern rallied but were given few opportunities by a Munich side determined to notch up their seventh successive league win of the season. It was not until the 82nd minute that Kaiserslautern defender Harry Koch stepped up to convert a late penalty - the first league goal conceded by Bayern keeper Oliver Kahn at home in the Olympic Stadium this season.

However, Bayern hammered the nail home in the last minute of regulation time, with another conversion from the spot kick, this time from Peruvian international forward Claudio Pizarro.

Bayer Leverkusen waited until the second half to complete an identical 4-1 result over Stuttgart.

Leverkusen were stung by an early goal from the visitors' Romanian international forward Viorel Ganea in the ninth minute, but from there on in it was all one-way traffic.

The hosts opened their account through Brazilian Ze Roberto on 24 minutes but had to wait until after the break, and the 60th minute, for Croatian international defender Boris Zivkovic to put the hosts in front.

Brazilian international defender Lucio put the game beyond Stuttgart's reach only four minutes later, with Bulgarian international forward Dimitar Berbatov scoring Leverkusen's fourth only four minutes from time.

VfL Wolfsburg 0 Hamburg SV 1, Borussia Dortmund 0 SC Freiburg 2, Bayern Munich 4 Kaiserslautern 1, Bayer Leverkusen 4 VfB Stuttgart 1, Schalke 04 1 TSV 1860 Munich 0, Hertha Berlin 3 Werder Bremen 1, Nuremberg 1 Borussia Moenchengladbach 2, Hansa Rostock 3 Cologne 0, FC St Pauli 4 Energie Cottbus 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Bayern Munich	10	8	1	1	25	4	25
2. Leverkusen	10	7	3	0	25	11	24
3. Kaiserslautern	10	8	0	2	24	14	24
4. Borussia	10	6	1	3	15	8	19
5. Schalke 04	10	5	2	3	12	12	17
6. VfB Stuttgart	10	4	3	3	12	13	15
7. Werder Bremen	10	4	2	4	15	14	14
8. Hertha Berlin	10	4	2	4	14	16	14
9. Hamburg SV	10	3	3	4	14	14	12
10. M'gladbach	10	3	3	4	13	13	12
11. SC Freiburg	10	3	3	4	13	14	12
12. Cottbus	10	3	2	5	12	20	11
13. 1860 Munich	10	3	2	5	11	19	11
14. Wolfsburg	10	2	3	5	13	16	9
15. H.Rostock	10	2	3	5	10	16	9
16. Cologne	10	2	2	6	7	18	8
17. St Pauli	10	1	4	5	11	15	7
18. Nuremberg	10	2	1	7	7	16	7

WORLD LEAGUES

GREEK FIRST DIVISION

Iraklis 2 Aegaleo 0 PAOK Salonika 3, Pafnionios 1 OFI Crete 1, Akrotitos 0 Ethnikos Asteras 2, AEK Athens 0 Aris Salonika 1, Xanthi 1 Panathinaikos 8, Panachaiki 0 Olympiakos 5 Ionikos 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Olympiakos	4	3	1	0	11	1	10
2. AEK Athens	4	3	0	1	8	3	9
3. Panathinaikos	4	2	2	0	14	3	8
4. Iraklis	4	2	1	1	6	5	7
5. Ethnikos Asteras	4	2	1	1	4	3	7
6. OFI Crete	4	2	1	1	5	5	7
7. Aris Salonika	4	1	3	0	3	2	6
8. PAOK Salonika	4	1	2	1	6	6	5
9. Akrotitos	4	1	1	2	3	3	4
10. Xanthi	4	1	1	2	3	5	4
11. Panachaiki	4	1	1	2	5	13	4
12. Panionios	4	0	2	2	4	8	2
13. Ionikos	4	0	1	3	2	9	1
14. Aegaleo	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

CROATIAN FIRST DIVISION

TSK 2 Zadar 1, Rijeka 1 Dinamo 0, Marsonia 2 Cibalia 1, Zagreb 4 Pomorac 3, Osijek 6 Hrv Dragovoljac 1, Varteks 3 Sibenik 0, Slaven Belupo 4 Kamen Ingrad 1, Hajduk 3 Cakovec 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Zagreb	12	10	2	0	35	11	32
2. Varteks	12	9	1	2	30	14	28
3. Hajduk	11	9	0	2	27	11	27
4. Rijeka	12	7	2	3	19	11	23
5. Dinamo	12	7	2	3	17	9	23
6. Slaven Belupo	12	5	3	4	13	12	18
7. Osijek	11	5	0	6	17	19	15
8. Cakovec	12	4	3	5	12	16	15
9. Hrv. Dragovoljac	12	4	3	5	15	21	15
10. Marsonia	12	4	2	6	16	16	14
11. Zadar	12	2	6	4	15	20	12
12. Kamen Ingrad	12	2	5	5	10	17	11
13. Pomorac	12	3	2	7	11	19	11
14. TSK	12	3	1	8	19	34	10
15. Cibalia	12	2	2	8	9	18	8
16. Sibenik	12	1	2	9	6	23	5

YUGOSLAV FIRST DIVISION

Mladost Apatin 0 Zemun Belgrade 1, Cukaricki Belgrade 3 Radnicki Kragujevac 0, Red Star Belgrade 1 Sutjeska Niksic 0, Rudar Pljevlja 1 Hajduk Kula 1, Zeta Golubovci 2 Mladost Lucani 1, Rad Belgrade 2 Obilic Belgrade 3, Sartilid Smederevo 2 Zvezdara Belgrade 2, Vojvodina Novi Sad 2 OFK Beograd Belgrade 0, Zeleznik Belgrade 1 Partizan Belgrade 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Partizan Belgrade	8	6	2	0	21	9	20
2. Sartilid Smederevo	8	5	2	1	11	7	17
3. Obilic Belgrade	8	4	3	1	15	10	15
4. Red Star Belgrade	8	3	4	1	12	9	13
5. Vojvodina Novi Sad	8	2	6	0	9	5	12
6. Zvezdara Belgrade	8	3	2	3	13	9	11
7. Rudar Pljevlja	8	3	2	3	9	6	11
8. Rad Belgrade	8	3	2	3	10	9	11
9. Zeta Golubovci	8	3	2	3	8	16	11
10. Zeleznik Belgrade	8	3	1	4	10	10	10
11. Zemun Belgrade	8	2	4	2	6	6	10
12. Hajduk Kula	8	2	-3	3	10	11	9
13. OFK Beograd	8	2	3	3	4	7	9
14. Cukaricki Belgrade	8	2	2	4	10	12	8
15. Mladost Lucani	8	2	1	5	9	13	7
16. Sutjeska Niksic	8	2	1	5	4	9	7
17. Mladost Apatin	8	1	3	4	7	12	6
18. Radnicki	8	1	3	4	7	15	6

TURKISH FIRST DIVISION

Goztepe 1 Denizlispor, Bursaspor 2 Kocaelispor 1, Rizespor 2 Genclerbiligi 2, Besiktas 2 Galatasaray 2, Istanbulspor 0 Samsunspor 1, Gaziantepspor 1 Malatyaspor 0, Trabzonspor 2 Yozgatspor 0, Fenerbahce 3 Antalyaspor 2, Diyarbakirspor 2 Ankaragucu 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Galatasaray	9	7	2	0	23	9	23
2. Istanbulspor	9	7	1	1	9	3	22
3. Fenerbahce	9	6	1	2	18	11	19
4. Kocaelispor	9	4	3	2	16	12	15
5. Goztepe	9	4	3	2	10	10	15
6. Besiktas	9	4	2	3	21	15	14
7. Gaziantepspor	9	4	2	3	11	10	14
8. Trabzonspor	9	4	1	4	16	12	13
9. Bursaspor	9	4	1	4	10	16	12
10. Denizlispor	9	3	2	4	16	9	11
11. Samsunspor	9	3	2	4	10	13	11

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

After Round 3	TOTAL							PTS	HOME						AWAY					
	P	W	D	L	BYE	F	A		P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A
PERTH GLORY	3	3	0	0	—	7	1	9	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	5	1
BRISBANE STRIKERS	2	2	0	0	1	5	2	6	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	3	1
NORTHERN SPIRIT	3	1	2	0	—	6	4	5	1	1	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	5	3
NEWCASTLE UNITED	3	1	2	0	—	2	1	5	2	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
MARCONI STALLIONS	3	1	1	1	—	5	5	4	1	1	0	0	5	3	2	0	1	1	0	2
PARRAMATTA POWER	3	1	1	1	—	4	4	4	2	1	0	1	4	4	1	0	1	0	0	0
MELBOURNE KNIGHTS	3	1	1	1	—	2	2	4	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	1	1
OLYMPIC SHARKS	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SYDNEY UNITED	3	1	0	2	—	2	4	3	1	0	0	1	1	3	2	1	0	1	1	1
ADELAIDE CITY	2	0	2	0	1	3	3	2	1	0	1	0	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	1
KINGZ FC	3	0	1	2	—	4	7	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	4	7
SOUTH MELBOURNE	3	0	1	2	—	1	4	1	2	0	0	2	1	4	1	0	1	0	0	0
WOLLONGONG WOLVES	3	0	1	2	—	1	5	1	2	0	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	3

ADELAIDE CITY FORCE

(Tunbridge 6, Fyfe 38)

NORTHERN SPIRIT

(Enes 31, Cardozo 54)

Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium. **Crowd:** 3,121. **Referee:** A. Nardi.

Cautions: Tunbridge (AC) 24, Cartwright (NS) 69, Enes (NS) 77.

Red Card: Cestic (AC) 88.

Teams: **ADELAIDE CITY:** Cagali, Kemp (Brain 59), Fyfe, Kovacevic, Cestic, Pantelis (Rees 88), Veart, Vidmar, Moreira, Tunbridge, Lewandowski.

NORTHERN SPIRIT: Acevski, Watts, Spencer, Trajkovski, McDermott, C. Foster, Cervinski (Perinich 79), Cardozo, Hutchinson (Bell 43), Cartwright, Enes.

NEWCASTLE UNITED

PARRAMATTA POWER

Venue: Marathon Stadium. **Referee:** P. Green. **Crowd:** 10,005.

Cautions: Roberts (NU) 16, Schirripa (NU) 55, Fitzsimmons (PP) 57.

Teams: **NEWCASTLE UNITED:** Beltrame, Roberts, Zoricich, Bingley, Wilson, Griffiths, Baillie, Blagojevic, Schirripa, Masi (Majurovski 74), Middleby.

PARRAMATTA POWER: Pogliacomi, Langdon, Orlic, Tobin, O'Sullivan, Lapsansky, Fitzsimmons, Buonovoglia, Elrich, Vrkic, Eagleton (Barrett 85).

WOLLONGONG WOLVES

PERTH GLORY

(Mori 36 & 87)

Venue: WIN Stadium. **Referee:** Matthew Breeze. **Crowd:** 4,876

Cautions: S Young (WW) 57, D McDonald (WW) 64, M Nicholson (WW) 67, M Garcia (PG) 53, J Harnwell (PG) 54, B Despotovski (PG) 63

Team: **WOLLONGONG WOLVES:** Dean Anastasiadis, Alvin Ceccolli, Robert Stanton, David Cervinski, Paul Reid, Max Nicholson (Naurm Sekulovski 75), Zeljko Babic (Liam Austin 75), Stuart Young, Buddy Farrah, Ben Blake, Darren McDonald.

PERTH GLORY: Jason Petkovic, Mathew Horsley, Jamie Harnwell, Craig Deans, Scott Miller, Brad Maloney (Gary Faria 88), Bobby Despotovski, Michael Garcia (Alistair Edwards 80), Edgar Jnr, Damian Mori, Shayne Pryce.

MARCONI STALLIONS

(Tome 23, Brownlie 26, Webb 73, Radulovic 91, Gulesarian 94)

KINGZ FC

(Urlovic 67, Osman 75, Markovski 87)

Venue: Marconi Stadium. **Referee:** S. Micallef. **Crowd:** 2,952.

Cautions: Costanzo (MS) 43.

Teams: **MARCONI STALLIONS:** Turnbull, Beauchamp, Costanzo, Longo, Care, Renaud, Maisano (Last 68), Tome (Gulesarian 67), Webb, Brownlie (Radulovic 80), Afkos.

KINGZ FC: Theoklitos, Perry (Osman 45), Atkinson, Buljubasic (Ngata 45), Rufer, Urlovic, Vlahos, Markovski, Burton, Hiroshi, Douglas.

OLYMPIC SHARKS

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

(Kiratzoglou 56)

Venue: Toyota Park. **Referee:** E. Lennie. **Crowd:** 5,213.

Cautions: Kiratzoglou (MK) 12, Jolic (MK) 43, Carle (SO) 53, Durrante (SO) 55, MacAllister (SO) 60.

Teams: **OLYMPIC SHARKS:** Bolton, Kohler, Wilson, Pondeljak, MacAllister (Moore 81), Halpin, North, Harris (Demourtzidis 85), Carle, Packer, Durante.

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS: John, Vargas, Ogenovski, Marth, Vasilevski, Porter, Piorkowski, Kiratzoglou, Vargas, Tricarico (Debevc 70).

SOUTH MELBOURNE

SYDNEY UNITED

(Milicic 36)

Venue: Bob Jane Stadium. **Referee:** Con Diomis. **Crowd:** 5,866.

Cautions: DeAmicis (SM) 14, Marusic (SU) 32, Moric (SU) 33, Cunico (SU) 39, Arambasic (SU) 46, Deur (SU) 61.

Teams: **SOUTH MELBOURNE:** Petkovic, Iosifidis, DeAmicis, Durakovic, Panopoulos, Trimboli, Buljan, Sekulovski, Bell (Petrovic 74), Kisorbo, Santilli (Manceski 67).

SYDNEY UNITED: Perosh, Arrarte, Cunico, Marusic, Moric (Angelucci 59), Arambasic (Menapi 68), Milicic, Deur, Santalab, Bilokapic, Stergiopoulos.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Damian Mori: Perth Glory's striker was outstanding in a 2-0 victory over Wollongong Wolves where he scored a double.

ROUND 4

FRIDAY OCTOBER 26

Newcastle Utd v Wollongong Wolves
Northern Spirit v Olympic Sharks
Kingz FC v Perth Glory

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27

Parramatta Power v Adelaide City Force
Melbourne Knights v Brisbane Strikers

SUNDAY OCTOBER 28

Sydney United v Marconi Stallions
South Melbourne bye

BRISBANE STRIKERS
Bye